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VERMONT'S INDEPENDENT VOICE MARCH 18-25 2015 VOL 20 NO 28 SEVENDAYSVT.COM



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Walter Wick

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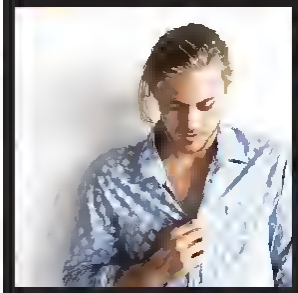
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Loaded QUESTIONS

THIS IS A HISTORIC VICTORY, BECAUSE THIS IS A GUN-VIOLENCE PREVENTION BILL THAT'S GOING FORWARD DESPITE THE OPPOSITION OF THE GUN LOBBY.

ANN BRADEN, Gun Sense Vermont cofounder

A legislative committee voted to advance a bill restricting access to firearms last Friday. The unanimous endorsement from the Senate Judiciary Committee guarantees that gun control will be debated this week on the floor of the Vermont Senate.

Before they passed the bill, though, committee members stripped it of language that would have mandated criminal background checks for private gun sales. That hotly debated proposal recently drew crowds of gun rights advocates to Montpelier.

Committee chair Dick Sears (D-Bennington) said that version of the proposed legislation, S.31, "is dead — I guess is that's the proper term — and will not be acted on this year or next year in this committee." *Seven Days* political reporter Paul Heintz reported on our Off Message blog.

"I did advance is a bill that would prohibit criminals and those convicted of gun trafficking from possessing firearms. It would also require that the names of certain mentally ill people be reported to a federal database for weapons-purchase background checks. Included would be those found not guilty of a crime by reason of insanity, those found incompetent to stand trial and those court-ordered into mental health treatment.

Sears, gun control activist and Gun Sense Vermont cofounder Ann Braden said, "This is a historic victory, because this is a gun violence prevention bill that's going forward despite the opposition of the gun lobby. This issue has been untouchable for years, and now it's on the table."

Evan Hughes, vice president of the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, said, "We've done this for many years. We understand this is one more step in the process. At this point, we have things that concern us, but we're willing to participate in getting the bill right."

Read the full post at sevendaysvt.com.

facing facts

EN TRAIN

A security agreement between the U.S. and Canada signed Monday could help restore passenger rail service from Vermont to Montreal. *A bientôt.*

GUITAR ZERO

The guy who allegedly lifted a $5,600 guitar from a Burlington shop also stole a tank of gas and led cops on a lengthy high-speed chase. Cue "Jailhouse Blues."

SLOW LEAK

Vermont Gas officials admitted the utility waited five months to report steep cost increases on its proposed pipeline, according to the *Addison County Independent*. Oops!

ZAPPED

A Rutland exterminator who'd already been sanctioned by the state lost his license for using a banned pesticide — and got fined $70,000. That's a lotta bedbugs.

109

That's how many miles per hour police say a Massachusetts man was driving when they pulled him over on Interstate 89 near Williston on Saturday, according to WCAX. He told officers he didn't realize how fast he was going.



TOP FIVE

MOST POPULAR ITEMS, [illegible] 2011

1. **"Seven Vermont Women to Watch"** by Terri Hallenbeck. Alice Freese, Kathryn Flagg, Mark Davis and Hannah Palmer Egan. In honor of Women's History Month, we talked with seven Vermont women who are making history now.
2. **"Taste Test: Butch + Babes"** by Alice Levitt. The Old North End restaurant serves up a totally new — and delicious — kind of Asian fusion.
3. **"Hen of the Wood's Owners to Open Beer Bar in Stowe"** by Alice Levitt. Stowe will get a new craft beer destination when the owners of the upscale Waterbury and Burlington restaurants open a new bar this summer.
4. **"Shumlin Administration Ratchets Up Pressure on State Employees"** by Paul Heintz. The state employees' union says it won't renegotiate a recently settled labor contract. Now the administration says it may have to cut between 150 and 325 state jobs.
5. **"WTF: While We Were Driving, Part 2"** by Pamela Polston. *Seven Days* readers have tons of questions about Vermont roads, so we asked VTrans for some answers.

tweet of the week:

@taylorkleng

As a person of watered-down Irish descent, I generally get a lot more excited about potato products than I do green beer.



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FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

BETTER BCA

Thanks to Ken Picard for writing about James Lockridge's campaign to create a Burlington arts commission ["Big Heavy World Director Challenges Burlington City Arts," March 11]. I am in full support of his efforts to make the allocation of Burlington tax dollars to the arts more democratic and more transparent. Doreen Kraft has done a splendid job, but she's been in her position for more than 20 years, and she cannot help but be an institution with all of the imperiousness that that word implies. If the article is accurate — and if only in response to James' activism and incessant bitching has the BCA's board announced its meetings publicly and invited comments at meetings — that's a problem.

Also, as a theater artist in a town full of actors, dancers, musicians, writers and filmmakers, I find BCA's bias toward the visual arts unacceptable. From what I can gather from a Google search, the current board consists of five visual artists, a doctor who writes books, a music producer and the rest seem to be prominent business people, educators and public figures typical of any arts board. Where are the theater artists, practicing musicians, writers and filmmakers? Where are people like Ben Bergstein, Brett Hughes, Kat Wright, Paul Schnabel, Cristina Alicea, John Killacky and Phil Baruth?

Also, as the article states, the mayor picks the 18 board members. That means the question of who controls Burlington's $1.25 million in arts money is shaped by patronage. That's great if you like the mayor or if the mayor likes you, but it's the wrong way to allocate funds for the arts.

David Schein
BURLINGTON

HEAVY ACCUSATIONS

Regarding "Big Heavy World Director Challenges Burlington City Arts" [March 11], I just don't get it. Jim Lockridge, the head of a one guy nonprofit called Big Heavy World, who has been collecting donations in Burlington since 1996 on behalf of the music community, has a problem with the way Burlington City Arts operates? He says "a spirit of inclusion and collaboration has been missing."

That's not the way I see it. My first Burlington performance in 1964 was at a long-ago Church Street coffeehouse named the Loft. I have seen Burlington come a long, long way in nurturing and supporting musicians and artists in all genres over the years. I cannot imagine today's Burlington without the Discover Jazz Festival, the Battery Park and City Hall Park concert series, and the many performances at the BCA and Memorial Auditorium.

While I don't always agree with the BCA, I very much respect and appreciate what it does to support a wide swath of local arts programs. While I get that it's not all about the money, with regard to developing and maintaining a strong and vibrant arts community, Ken Picard's lead in the story resonates with me. "In 2013,

TIM NEWCOMB



Burlington City Arts paid 174 artists more than a quarter million dollars for their creative efforts."

You don't raise and spend that amount of money for the arts in any community without collaboration and a spirit of inclusion. And a visit to the Burlington City Arts website reveals a thriving and energetic organization listing staff, board members and many opportunities to participate. A visit to the Big Heavy World website lists only one name, Jim Lockridge, and a litany of nonpaid "opportunities" to work or donate. In my experience, Big Heavy World puts *no money* whatsoever into the pockets of Burlington musicians. Aren't you required by law to make public your finances when you are collecting nonprofit donations? There is more to this story.

Rick Norcross
BURLINGTON

Norcross is front man for Rick & the All-Star Ramblers Western Swing Band.

LIES ABOUT LY

I was disappointed by Alicia Freese's "Digging: A Firm Requests Records Regarding a Burlington Councilor," [Off Message, February 18] and its insinuation that Michael Ly, candidate for Burlington City Council, or his supporters may have been responsible for an inquiry into the activities and/or finances of city councilor Tom Ayres. Freese's implication makes it all the more clear that some media people in this city will stop at nothing to muddy the reputations of conservative individuals and organizations.

Michael Ly is one of the most caring and inclusive people I have had the pleasure of knowing, and the implication that he is involved in such an investigation is absolutely unacceptable. Ly and the Burlington chapter of the Vermont Republican Party know all they need to know about Ayres and his positions on issues important to the residents of the New North End of Burlington. Ditto other organizations around the state. As a result of the article, online comments demonizing Republicans are appearing both in *Seven Days* and Front Porch Forum — without a shred of evidence to support them. This seems to be the new Vermont modus operandi.

I have no idea who or what organization was behind Data Targeting Research's request for the council records of Tom Ayres. I can say that neither the Burlington Republicans nor the Michael Ly campaign had anything to do with it. This is beyond politics. In the future I would hope that the *Seven Days* editorial board would use more caution and insist its writers use the basic principles of journalism so as not to disparage a person's reputation without warrant.

Tony Bell
BURLINGTON

Bell is chair of the Burlington chapter of the Republican Party.

AGE-OLO COMPLAINT

It is great that many Vermont women are getting the respect for their hard work and their success. However, I noticed all the women featured in ["Women to Watch," March 11] are on the younger side. This makes me cringe a bit, as it perpetuates the idea of youth being more highly valued than older people, regardless of gender. Who's to say a woman in her fifties, sixties, seventies — even in her eighties or nineties — can't be called a "woman to watch" or a success? As human beings, we are always developing, and there are plenty of older women, whether they are retired or not, who could be highlighted as "women to watch." While I've been pleased to see some obituaries in *Seven Days*, let's honor older people before they pass away. It would be interesting to rerun this story as "Women to Watch 60+" to understand the wisdom and experiences they can share with younger generations.

Carrie Shamel
COLCHESTER

SENATORIAL OOUBLE STANOAROS

[Re "Sanders, Leahy to Boycott Netanyahu Speech, Welch to Attend," Off Message, February 9] So Pat Leahy and Bernie Sanders apparently have no compunction over crawling into bed with two of the planet's most ruthless and incorrigible despots in a naive attempt to "normalize" relations with Cuba. Too bad the prime minister of Israel wasn't afforded the same courtesy. Boycotting an address to Congress by the senior representative of one of this country's closest allies was a craven stunt. *Profiles in Courage* anyone?

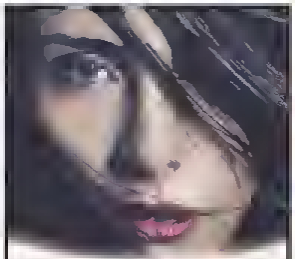
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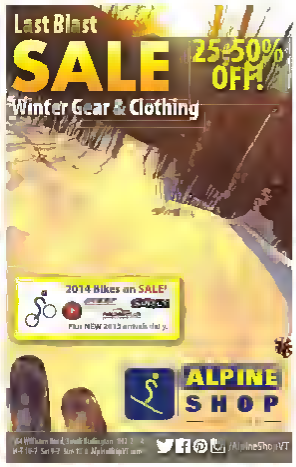
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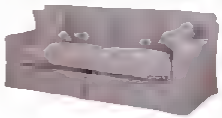
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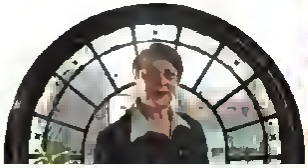




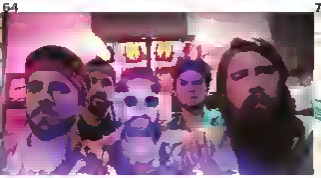
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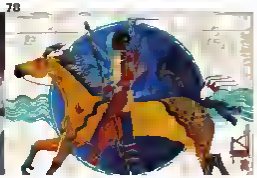
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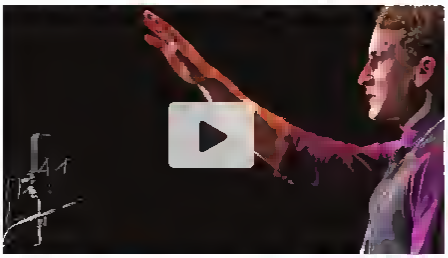
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Stuck in Vermont Five thousand students from across Vermont memorized poems for the annual Poetry Out Loud competition. Eva Solberger filmed the state semi-finals at the Barre Opera House. The winners advance to the finals on March 19.

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1

FRIDAY 20

MOUTH PIECE

If you think you know the clarinet, French clarinetist **Raphaël Sévère** (pictured) will make you think again. In 2005, the then 11-year-old virtuoso debuted with the Beijing Opera Orchestra. Top honors in international competitions followed, priming him for a flourishing career. The gifted musician performs works by Brahms, Stravinsky and others as part of a national tour.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 56

2

FRIDAY 20

Making Waves

Stretching from Alaska to Russia, the Aleutian Islands are among the most remote in the world. Situated on the northern edge of the Ring of Fire, the volcanic islands serve as the dividing line for the Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea. Explorers **Justine Curgenven and Sarah Outen** spent 101 days kayaking these unforgiving waters and lived to tell their tale.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 55

3

TUESDAY 24

In Focus

French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson changed the way people saw everyday life. Considered by many to be the father of photojournalism, he found beauty and symmetry in often-overlooked scenery, capturing spontaneous moments on the street. Heinz Butler's 2003 documentary ***Henri Cartier-Bresson: The Impassioned Eye*** offers a glimpse into the artist's portfolio from the 1940s to the 1960s.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 59

4

TUESDAY 24

Pawsitively Entertaining

It's reigning cats and dogs when the **Popovich Comedy Pet Theater** performs. Fabulous felines and their canine counterparts showcase feats of agility, balance and strength under the direction of renowned clown and trainer Gregory Popovich. All former strays, the four-legged stars of the show climb, leap, jump rope and play football in a series of lighthearted skits and stunts.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 59

5

THURSDAY 19

Eye Opener

Together for 21 years, Lyndon State College president Joe Bertolino and his partner, Bill Leipold, are dedicated to educating others about their experience as a same-sex couple. Faced with homophobia, discrimination and other struggles in a world of heterosexual privilege, the two choose to celebrate similarities rather than differences in ***When the Gays Move into the Neighborhood***.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 58

6

FRIDAY 20

Future's So Bright

Break out the Spandex and synthesizers! Led by neon-clad front man Mark Daly, the Burlington-based band **Medalie** goes dig with its aptly titled pop debut, *The Dance*. Punctuated and playful, catchy tunes reflect a complexity and musicianship that transcends 1980s attire. Music lovers have a listen at an album release party at Burlington City Hall Auditorium.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 64

7

ONGOING

Eye for Detail

Richard Whitten has an affinity for antique toys, mechanical devices and scientific instruments. These interests overlap in "**Experiments**," an exhibit of oil-on-panel pieces and their three-dimensional study models at Helen Day Art Center. Geometric works represent a reality that, like the garden in *Alice in Wonderland*, can be glimpsed but not reached or acquired," according to Whitten.

SEE REVIEW ON PAGE 74

COURTESY OF BERTRAND BECHARD



A Taxing Session

The day after one House committee voted last Thursday to increase health insurance subsidies for low-income Vermonters, the chair of another proposed slashing them to balance the budget.

As one committee voted to create a new, two-cents-per-ounce tax on sugar-sweetened beverages, a more powerful panel lined up against it.

And as a popular bill to clean up Vermont's rivers and lakes won swift passage in several House committees, it was stripped of the revenue necessary to fund it.

Conducting this dissonant orchestra — or at least, trying to — was House Speaker **SHAP SMITH** (D-Morristown), who must get his players in tune by the end of this week. That's when most money and tax bills are due on the House floor, so they can make it through the Senate by the legislature's early May adjournment.

What emerges from the House next week could have a lasting political impact on the 49-year-old speaker, who is expected to run for the state's top office in 2016, if Gov **PETER SHUMLIN** calls it quits. And that's a problem for Smith, because the budget ain't looking pretty.

"Look, you don't always make a lot of friends in this job. If you make any, you're lucky," Smith says. "I'm just hoping that my wife and kids will speak to me after the session is over."

Complicating matters for Smith are several factors. As a result of underperforming income taxes, the budget gap has widened to a frightening $113 million and shows no signs of abating in the coming years.

Second, House committees have taken the lead on nearly every major piece of legislation being debated this year, from education finance to water quality to health care reform. The situation, prompted by the Senate's chronic dysfunction, has led to a bottleneck in the House Ways and Means Committee, which must sign off on new funding sources.

Third, Shumlin himself never really proposed a plan that would, you know, balance the budget. His January budget address tackled the state's then-$94 million gap, but when a revenue downgrade upped that number to $113 million the very next week, the gov declined to say how he'd make up the difference.

That led Rep **MITZI JOHNSON** (D-Grand Isle), who chairs the House Appropriations Committee, to complain last Friday that her committee was being forced to come up with $18.6 million worth of cuts on its own — on top of those proposed by the governor.

Her recommendations, which will be debated and finalized by her panel this week, include sizable reductions to the state's health insurance, foster care, information technology, tourism, corrections and housing programs. In total her plan and Shumlin's would cut nearly $57 million from the state's $1.4 billion general fund budget.

In a letter sent Tuesday to Smith and Senate President Pro Tempore **JOHN CAMPBELL** (D-Windsor), Public Assets Institute executive director **PAUL CILLO** and a coalition of liberal lobbyists implored legislators to eliminate tax breaks enjoyed by the wealthy instead of slashing state services.

> THERE ARE NO OPPORTUNITIES TO BE A POLITICAL WINNER IF YOU WANT TO PASS A BUDGET.
> SPEAKER SHAP SMITH

"Cuts over the past decade or more have already undermined the state's ability to competently deliver the services that Vermonters need and want," wrote the group, which calls itself One Vermont.

But the speaker appears disinclined to heed that advice, and he doesn't appear likely to issue a reprieve to state workers facing more than $10 million worth of job cuts or salary reductions proposed by the governor. Smith, Johnson and House Ways and Means Committee chair **JANET ANCEL** (D-Calais) all say they've agreed to raise just $35 million to balance the budget, with the rest coming from cuts and one-time funding.

"I think we're pretty clear that that's the right number," Ancel says. "I haven't heard discussion about raising it or reducing it."

Ancel hopes to collect that cash in a progressive manner, in part by capping itemized income tax deductions at $15,500, or 2.5 times the standard deduction. She would also eliminate an individual's option to deduct last year's state and local taxes from this year's tax bill, an idea advanced by Shumlin.

While those revenue sources would plug the budget hole, they wouldn't pay for new programs proposed by other House committees, such as the roughly $13 million bill to clean up the state's rivers and lakes. To come up with that cash, legislators have considered everything from taxing fertilizer and commercial feed to raising the rooms and meals tax.

The biggest kahuna to emerge last week was a $47 million bill passed by the House Health Care Committee, which would address the so-called Medicaid cost-shift and increase health insurance subsidies for low-income Vermonters.

The committee would finance the bill by levying a 0.3 percent payroll tax, which would raise nearly $40 million in state funds, and a sugary drink tax, which would raise nearly $31 million. It would also repeal an $18 million tax on businesses that don't provide health insurance to their employees.

"I'm under no illusion this will be the last proposal," Rep **BILL LIPPERT** (D-Hinesburg), the committee's chair, said last Wednesday as his colleagues signed off on the plan.

He's right. Before the ink was dry, critics lambasted the committee for contemplating nearly $50 million in new spending during such tough fiscal times.

"As **HOWARD DEAN** once said, that bill is in la-la land," says Vermont Chamber of Commerce president **BETSY BISHOP**.

"The health committee is across the hall from appropriations," echoes Rep **PATTI KOMLINE** (R-Dorset). "They're not in a bubble. I just don't know what they're thinking."

Ancel puts it more diplomatically: "It was more money than I had anticipated," she says. "There are many things in that bill that I fully support and would love to find a way to accomplish. The question with everything is, How do you raise the money to do it?"

She's not sure a new payroll tax — a far larger version of which was first proposed by Shumlin — is the best approach. "I've had questions about it from the beginning, and I still have questions about it," she says.

And while Ancel backs the excise tax on sugary beverages, she admits she doesn't have the votes for it and claims she's "not lobbying for it."

By *Seven Days* count, it's opposed by seven of her committee's 11 members. Komline and Reps **CAROLYN BRANAGAN** (R-Georgia), **BILL CANFIELD** (R-Fair Haven), **JIM CONDON** (D-Colchester), **ADAM GRESNIK** (I-Warren), **JIM MASLAND** (D-Thetford) and **SAM YOUNG** (D-Glover).

"I'm not going to vote for it as proposed," says Young, who was previously on the fence. "And my estimation of the committee is that we wouldn't have the votes to pass it."

Says Masland, another swing voter, "I don't believe the tax will work as proposed."

Both say they'd be open to a more limited plan, such as extending the sales tax to soda and candy, but that wouldn't raise nearly enough to pay for the health care committee's priorities.

So in the next week, the speaker and his leadership team will have to decide which to advance and which to scuttle. Like everything this year, the decision won't be easy and the outcome won't be popular.

"Given the current landscape, there are no opportunities to be a political winner if you want to pass a budget, so I can't really

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be that worried about politics," Smith says. "What I need to be worried about is the long-term implications for the state of Vermont."

POLITICS

Miller's Tale

After almost losing reelection last fall, Shumlin responded not by cleaning house but by promoting three of his top political staffers.

The only major leadership change came in January, when Shumlin's longtime secretary of administration, **JEB SPAULDING**, left to run the Vermont State Colleges, a move long in the making.

But according to several sources around the Statehouse, Shumlin chief of staff **LIZ MILLER** is on her way out the door, perhaps within months. Only problem is, those sources say, the administration is having a mighty hard time finding anyone to replace her.

Miller declined to comment on the speculation, but an email she sent Associated Press reporter **DAVE GRAM** last month provided a clue.

In February, Sen. **PATRICK LEAHY** (D-Vt.) formally recommended Miller's husband, Sheehey Furlong & Behm attorney **ERIC MILLER**, to succeed **TRISTRAM COFFIN** as Vermont's U.S. attorney. Given that the job oversees investigations of elected officials, Gram wondered how he would handle a potential conflict involving Shumlin's office.

Liz Miller responded: "In the event he is nominated and confirmed, and I am still in this job when he starts service, U.S. Attorneys offices have well-established procedures in place for handling conflicts for all attorneys in the office, including the U.S. Attorney."

"In the event" she's still in the job?

Leahy spokesman **DAVID CARLE** says the White House vetting process typically takes three months, after which the Senate would quickly confirm the president's pick.

An attorney and former Department of Public Service commissioner, Liz Miller was an unconventional choice to head up Shumlin's fifth-floor staff when she was appointed in November 2012. Though widely respected for her intellect and policy chops, she did not bring to the very political office a background in electoral politics.

Who replaces her will say a lot about Shumlin's priorities, his electoral future and whether he's still able to recruit top talent to a tough job.

Media Notes

Caught in the crossfire of the budgeting process are two media outlets that receive support from the state.

Mitzi Johnson, the House Appropriations chair, has proposed cutting half of Vermont PBS' $560,000 appropriation next year and the rest the year after that.

HOLLY GROSCHNER, the station's new president and CEO, says the impact on its $6.5 million budget would be "quite devastating," particularly given that the federally funded Corporation for Public Broadcasting provides a 25 percent match to state grants.

"I can't tell you we would lose **BIG BIRD** or **ELMO**, but I can tell you there are going to be significant choices to make," she says.

Johnson also pitched a $750,000 cut to the Department of Tourism and Marketing, specifically citing the state's money-losing *Vermont Life* magazine.

Secretary of Commerce **PAT MOULTON** says the state-run magazine has "done a fair amount of things to cut costs," including axing its products catalog and trimming its staff. She says subscriptions are up, the age of its readership is down and it continues to be "a very powerful lure piece" for out-of-staters.

"Everything is trending in the right direction for *Vermont Life* which for a print publication is pretty good," Moulton says. "But things have changed in the print media world, as you know!"

I'll say!

Speaking of which, as we reported last week, Montpelier's twice-monthly newspaper, the *Bridge*, has been trying to raise money to keep its presses running. Last Wednesday, the free paper reached its $10,000 goal on Kickstarter, the crowdfunding site. As of this writing, some 173 donors have pledged $12,567.

That should be more than enough to keep the paper in business for the next four to five months as it transitions into a nonprofit, according to editor and publisher **NAT FROTHINGHAM**.

Down the road from the *Bridge*, the *Barre-Montpelier Times Argus* is preparing to welcome **GINA CONN** as its next Montpelier city reporter. You may remember Conn for the explosive story she and **HANNAH PALMER EGAN** wrote for *Vice* magazine in December 2013 on heroin use in Vermont.

The piece came out a month before Shumlin devoted his 2014 state of the state address to opiate abuse and launched a wave of national stories about Vermont's drug problems. A Colorado-based freelance writer, Conn spent part of her childhood in Barre and previously worked for WCAX-TV. Palmer Egan now works for *Seven Days*.

Lastly, Reuters reported Monday that the private equity firm Apollo Global Management "is in advanced talks" to buy Digital First Media, the conglomerate that publishes the *Brattleboro Reformer*, *Bennington Banner* and *Manchester Journal*.

Whether that'll make any difference to the southern Vermont papers isn't yet clear. After all, the papers are currently owned by another private equity firm, Alden Global Capital.

And so the world spins on. ⑦

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Queen of the City? Jane Knodell Poised to Become Burlington City Council Prez

BY ALICIA FREESE

"She was no rubber stamp." That's how Peter Clavelle recently described working with Jane Knodell, who led the Burlington City Council for three years while he served as mayor. Although they're cut from the same political cloth — both are pro-development Progressives — Clavelle distinctly recalled that Knodell "twisted my arm on occasion."

More than a decade later, Knodell, 60, is poised to become council president once again — this time alongside a Democratic mayor. Can Miro Weinberger share the power with the longest-serving Progressive councilor in Queen City history?

Knodell is starting her 17th nonconsecutive year on Burlington's governing body. The Stanford-educated economist has taught at the University of Vermont since 1986, during which time she's also authored papers such as "Rethinking the Jacksonian Economy: The Impact of the 1832 Bank Veto on Commercial Banking." She stepped down from the city council after she was appointed UVM's provost in 2010 but returned in 2013, shortly after resigning from that position.

When the city council meets on Monday nights in Burlington City Hall Auditorium, Weinberger sits at one end of the U-shaped table, while Knodell holds court on the other. The arrangement holds symbolic importance — though the two don't butt heads often, Knodell has emerged over the last two years as the mayor's foil.

She's less loquacious than your average politician, but when Knodell does talk — in a slightly gravelly voice and at a professor's measured pace — councilors listen.

"She's probably the smartest person at the table," said Progressive Councilor Max Tracy.

Republican Councilor Kurt Wright considered Knodell his political adversary when they first encountered one another on the council in the 1990s. These days, though, they are close allies. "She is — and I mean this in the best sense — a very strong woman," Wright said. "She doesn't back down to anyone."

Not surprisingly, Knodell commands similar respect in her classroom. At the start of a Principles of Macroeconomics lecture last Friday, roughly 90 students jabbered in a theater-size room. Two soft-spoken "good mornings" from Knodell were sufficient to silence the chatter. Opting for chalk and blackboard rather than PowerPoint, she proceeded to guide students through equations while also peppering them with questions like, "What are the components of aggregate demand?"

Sporting a poker face and rimless glasses, Knodell can be blunt during policy debates. Drawing on her fiscal acumen, she's challenged Weinberger on subjects ranging from the fate of Burlington Telecom to the future of the Burlington Town Center mall. But her opposition generally takes the form of probing for answers rather than waging personal attacks.

When the mayor announced plans for the mall's redevelopment, Knodell played the lead in drafting 19 questions about the developer's credentials, the public input process and whether the project would reflect the needs of low-income residents. She's been especially vocal about the city-run telecom, insisting that it remain locally owned and that city officials try to recoup the $17 million still owed to taxpayers.

The council president assigns councilors to committees, works with the mayor to set the agendas and moderates debate. The bearer of that title is expected to hunt his or her own participation during those discussions, which means Knodell will have less opportunity to publicly grill the mayor. But behind the scenes, she'll have more sway — and she plans to capitalize on that.

If she's elected president, Knodell said, she'll make sure the council plays a role in decision-making earlier in the process. Rather than the Weinberger administration recommending a particular course of action to the council, she'll demand a palette of options. The goal, she explained, is to create a "stronger, more independent" governing body. Wright suggested that under Democrat Joan Shannon's leadership, the council has sometimes seemed like an arm of the administration.

If Weinberger is nervous, he's not letting on. "I certainly have a lot of respect for Jane, and I hope the feeling is mutual," he said, adding that he expects the "productive working relationship" they've enjoyed thus far to continue.

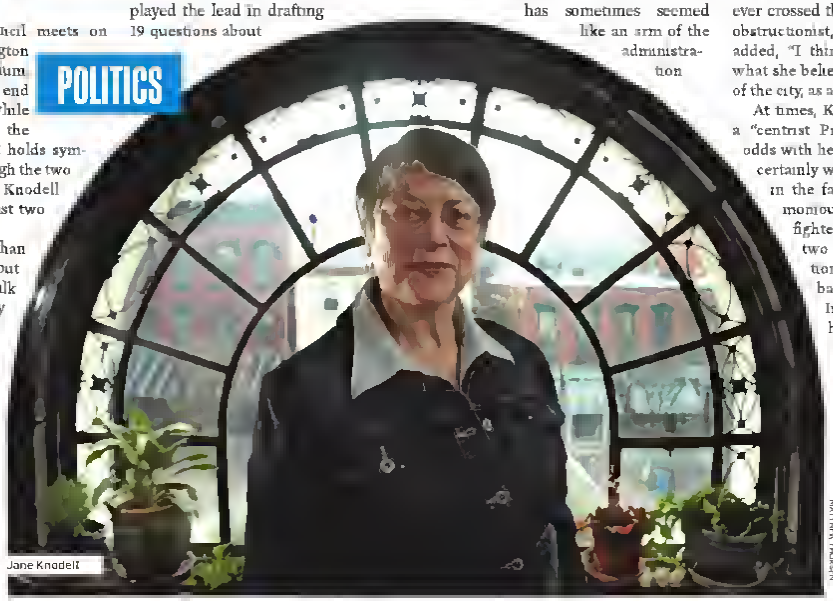
What about the time she and Wright introduced a resolution calling for more action on permit reform — a particular affront to the ex-developer mayor, who's made such reforms a cornerstone of his political agenda? During that debate, Weinberger described the resolution as a misinformed document that ignored substantial improvements made during his tenure. He told the council, "A basic tenet of comanaging the city … is that we not surprise each other and certainly not surprise each other on issues we care about."

In an interview last Thursday, he was less inclined to scold. "I consider Jane to be a straight shooter. She communicates with me clearly when she doesn't agree with something," Weinberger said. "That's a healthy part of the way our process works."

Both Weinberger and Clavelle praised Knodell for eschewing political partisanship. Asked if he thought she'd ever crossed the line from watchdog to obstructionist, Weinberger said no, and added, "I think Jane is motivated by what she believes is in the best interest of the city, as am I."

At times, Knodell, who calls herself a "centrist Progressive," has been at odds with her own party. Progressives certainly weren't singing her praises in the fall of 2013 amid an acrimonious debate over the F-35 fighter jets. She voted against two Prog-sponsored resolutions that would have either barred the Burlington International Airport from hosting the planes or delayed the decision about where to base them. Ever the economist, Knodell said she was concerned about the potential loss of jobs. At the time, Tracy told *Seven Days* he was "shocked and betrayed" by her votes, which also conflicted with her campaign pledge to oppose the planes.

POLITICS



Jane Knodell

PHOTO: MATT LUDTKE

Knodell's willingness to break with her party has also inspired admiration.

"To me," Wright said, "that's the ultimate test of leadership — doing what you think is right and knowing you might disappoint your constituents and your party."

Democratic Councilor Tom Ayres described Knodell as a "mediating influence between her fellow Progressives and the rest of the council."

But colleagues also say Knodell, with her conservative bent and independent edge, has been instrumental in forging a coalition among non-Democrats on the council. During the past two years, when the council was split with seven Democrats and everyone else, the latter group banded together from time to time. That informal alliance is the reason why Knodell is nearly guaranteed to win the council presidency on April 6.

> I'VE GOT TO SAY, I'M A FAN OF JANE.
> MIKE SMITH

The newly elected 12-member council consists of five Democrats, four Progressives, two independents and a single Republican. Knodell has already locked down all the non-Democratic votes.

The elder Progressive is unwilling to take credit for being a binding agent and instead attributes the confederacy to the younger Progs, who've made an effort to reach out to their more moderate peers. Tracy contends that she's made that outreach possible. Over post-meeting beers with Knodell and Wright, he's connected with an older, Republican councilor he might otherwise have clashed with.

Knodell also took on the role of mentor during the recent election. In Ward 5, she encouraged her former student, Mike Fife, to run under the Progressive banner. (He lost to incumbent Chip Mason.) One of her current students, Ben Vidal, managed independent Adam Roof's successful campaign for the Ward 8 seat. Vidal credits Knodell with encouraging him to care about local politics — first within the classroom, then outside it.

During her own campaigns, Knodell has shown little patience for political stunts. When she ran for office in 2013, Democrats tried to make an issue of a compensation package she received to "transition" from provost to professor — approximately $285,000 over 18 months. In response to the controversy, Knodell told *Seven Days*, "I am proud of the fact that I was able to break the glass ceiling at the University of Vermont and hold a position traditionally held by men. It should not be necessary to apologize for the fact that my skills and experience have value in the academic community." After the election, she requested — and received — a written apology from the Democratic party chair.

During her spare time, Knodell swims, hangs out with her miniature schnauzer and does Sudoku puzzles — "the easy ones," she insists. She's married to Ted Wimpey, director of the Fair Housing Project at the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity.

But Knodell doesn't have much time for extracurricular activities. In addition to a full teaching load and her council duties, Knodell has periodically taken on other demanding assignments.

Last fall, for instance, she was recruited to help resuscitate the floundering, debt-ridden Burlington College. She served for several months as the interim provost alongside the interim president, Mike Smith, who had served as Republican former governor Jim Douglas' secretary of administration. The school was on the verge of collapse, and relations between the administration and students, who agitated for the ouster of the previous president, were severely strained.

"I've got to say, I'm a fan of Jane," Smith said, describing Knodell as smart, fair, forward-thinking and flexible. Her levelheadedness helped lessen the tension, he continued, and their different political orientations "never interfered with getting a job done." That entailed selling off most of the college's lakeside campus to a developer — a move that's upset people who want to preserve the land.

Knodell is now a Burlington College board member, causing members of the preservation movement to question whether that role conflicts with her work on the city council. Knodell disputed the suggestion, pointing out that the council hasn't voted on anything related to that land, which now no longer belongs to Burlington College.

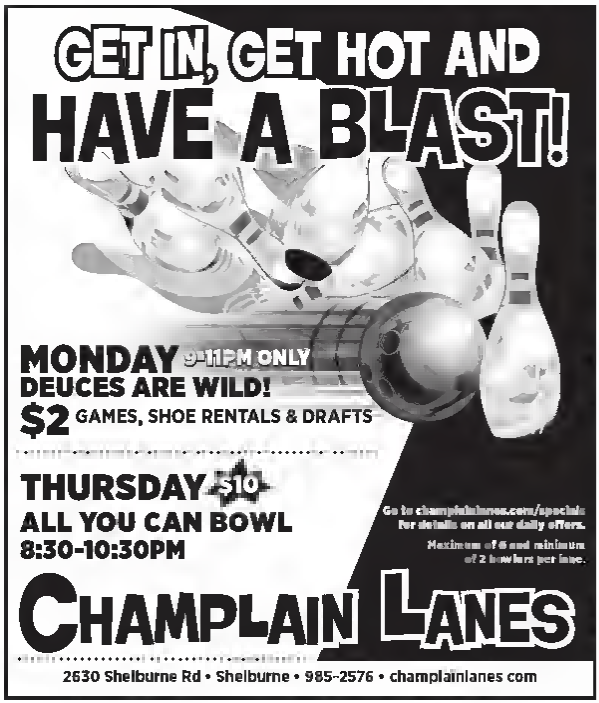
Several people interviewed for this story raised another subject: Knodell, they suggested, would make a great mayor. The murmurings are nothing new. Does she aspire to be the first female to preside over the Queen City?

Sitting in her office on campus, Knodell laughed and rolled her eyes before answering the question. "It's not a part of my game plan," she responded, coolly. But, she went on, "Would I potentially sometime run for mayor? I'd say yes." ⑦

Contact: ahcia@sevendaysvt.com







Lucrative Lesson: Vermont Schools Look to Recruit More International Students

BY MOLLY WALSH

Natavan Dudkina learned about the University of Vermont at a college fair she attended more than 5,500 miles away from Burlington — in Baku, Azerbaijan. The 18-year-old pre-med student with thick, dark hair and a gentle smile was hooked after hearing about UVM's "public Ivy League" reputation, strong life sciences courses and clean air.

Lake Champlain reminds Dudkina a bit of the Caspian Sea in her hometown Baku — without so much air pollution hanging over the shoreline. "When you go outside, it's so fresh," she said.

Colleges across the country are eager to attract students like Dudkina, who pay top dollar to get an education abroad. Last year, international student enrollment at U.S. colleges and universities jumped 8.1 percent to nearly 900,000 students.

Vermont is late to the party. Last year, its colleges hosted 1,241 international students who brought in $48.2 million. That makes it 48th among the states for hosting non-American learners, according to the nonprofit Institute of International Education.

Katryna Snow, senior assistant director of international admissions at UVM, said that when she first started working at UVM two years ago, the school was "an unknown brand" in the lucrative race for global admissions.

UVM president Tom Sullivan had arrived the year before, emphasizing cultural diversity in education and worldwide recruitment. In 2014, international students accounted for 3 percent of UVM's undergrad enrollment — up from 1 percent in 2012. The goal is 7 percent by 2018.

To that end, Snow and other administrators now frequently fly to China, Europe, the Middle East and Africa in search of new recruits. The university teams up with other American institutions to host mini-fairs at schools abroad, like the one in Baku that attracted Dudkina. Promotional material is available in multiple languages: Chinese, Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese.

VERMONT HIGH SCHOOLS, TOO, ARE GETTING IN ON THE INTERNATIONAL ACTION.

The firm Kaplan International feeds sophomores to UVM from programs in China and Nigeria.

With Sullivan at the helm, in 2013 the college also started a partnership with the private firm Study Group to help with international networking and recruitment. Together they created the Global Gateway Program, to help international students improve their English skills — the greatest impediment to their academic success — right on the Burlington campus. Students enroll for up to a year and, if they meet the requirements, enter the university as sophomores.

That's Dudkina's plan. She's a biochemistry major taking calculus — and earning As. Russian is her first language, and she's succeeding in her Global Gateway humanities courses, even though she struggles to read and write English. One of her toughest moments this year was earning a B on a research paper — a surprise for a student accustomed to being at the top of her class.

"I was so disappointed and upset," Dudkina said.

She sought extra help and improved her writing skills, and pushes herself socially to improve her English and make friends. "I would say it's about searching for opportunities to talk to a person," she said. "Just sitting in your room, you learn nothing."

Like all U.S. institutions of higher learning, UVM is preparing for a demographic decline of college-age students. The college accepts around 70 percent of Vermont students who apply, and that pool is small. Vermonters filed only 2,200 applications to UVM this year, compared to about 23,000 out-of-state applicants.

There's increasing competition for those out-of-state students, especially in the New England area, who pay $35,832 — more than double the in-state rate — to attend UVM. Targeting internationals protects against potential losses in admissions and revenue. "The reality is that the numbers in our primary market are diminishing," said Beth Wiser, director of admissions at UVM.

Most internationals pay full freight and are not eligible for need-based aid.

Vermont high schools, too, are getting in on the international action. This semester, Montpelier High School is hosting six Chinese students — who pay approximately $7,000 each in tuition. The school is weighing a proposal to host 20 Chinese students next year under an expanded partnership with Spiral International, a Burlington company that organizes cultural exchanges.

It's considering a larger program with students living in dorms at Vermont College of Fine Arts that would launch in the fall of 2016. MHS principal Adam Bunting said the program could enrich the school culturally and financially.



EDUCATION



PHOTOS BY MOLLY WALSH

Business owners are also intrigued, he added. "Why aren't we thinking about bringing in students who would see our state and later in their lives contribute to our local economy? It just makes sense."

Private high schools and boarding programs have long tapped the global market for students. At St. Johnsbury Academy, 270 of its 970 students are from abroad. Most internationals pay full tuition and boarding costs at the school, which total about $49,000 per year. St. Johnsbury recruiter and associate headmaster Jack Cummings sees that as a win-win. "We all have to pay our bills," he said. "I see diversity as the best way to continue to be successful."

Why do foreign students come to Vermont? At the college level, the state can't compete with mega-universities that offer world-renowned science, technology, engineering and math programs. But according to Snow, the classic American college campus has strong appeal. Many international students are from countries where higher education might not have a residential component, sports or clubs, and these things are sought after. Students want "the grassy quad, the students playing Frisbee," Snow said.

The beauty and human scale of Vermont have their own appeal, Cummings said. Especially in rapidly developing economies such as China, where pollution is rampant, Vermont's environment is a draw.

"It's safe, it's clean, it's beautiful," Cummings said.

Thang Nguyen, 20, is a UVM freshman from Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam. His parents, who are silk vendors, supported their son's decision after an academic adviser at a Boston-based study program suggested Nguyen consider UVM. "My adviser told me there's a place called Vermont, and there's a good school there," Nguyen said.

With his oversize glasses and skinny jeans, Nguyen looks like any hipster on campus. He ranked second in his class at home and scored higher than the average American on the SATs. He's a computer science major who writes code with ease and has an A average. But like Dudkina, Nguyen finds his humanities classes difficult. An introduction to classical music class is by far his hardest, he said.



Natavan Dudkina's dorm room door

Nguyen also had trouble adjusting to social life at UVM. "At the beginning, it was really, really scary," Nguyen said. Since then he's made friends, learned to skateboard and joined a fraternity.

Though many international students head to states with big university systems, Nguyen was not tempted, even with their larger Vietnamese populations.

He likes the cold after the heat of Ho Chi Minh City, and he wants to learn how to ski. "I want a change," Nguyen said. "I want a new place." ⑦

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State of the Unions: Shumlin Strikes Out With Organized Labor

BY TERRI HALLENBECK

Six years ago, the president pro tempore of the Vermont Senate stood on the steps of the Statehouse and decried state employee layoffs proposed by the governor.

The senate president, Democrat Peter Shumlin, thanked Vermont State Employees' Association members for offering other budget-cutting ideas to counter Republican governor Jim Douglas' proposed layoffs.

"What we will do in exchange is ensure that the governor's plan to demoralize the state workforce with fear and intimidation doesn't happen," Shumlin said during the March 2009 rally, drawing enthusiastic applause from union members. "We stand by you."

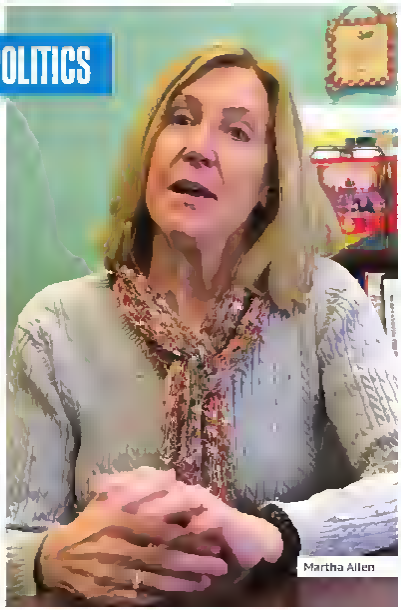
When Shumlin ran for governor the next year, those state employees endorsed him in the general election, helping to nudge him to a narrow victory over Republican Brian Dubie. The 5,500-member union endorsed Shumlin again in 2012 and in 2014.

So, too, did the Vermont National Education Association, which represents 12,000 teachers, support staff and retirees.

It might have been naive of the unions to believe that state employees and teachers could count on Shumlin to leave them unscathed, given escalating concerns over the state budget and rising school taxes. But each union met with Shumlin before the last election, asked him a series of questions and liked what it heard. Shumlin assured the VSEA in October that layoffs would only come as a last resort. He supported keeping the Vermont Veterans Home in Bennington open and publicly owned, he said.

The governor was committed to creating a government-financed health insurance system with coverage as fine as the teachers have, he assured the Vermont-NEA in August. He believed, as they did, that employers should be required to provide paid sick leave.

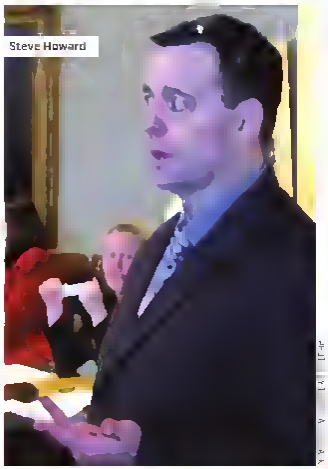
Shumlin went on to win reelection by just 2,434 votes. The unions never seriously considered endorsing Republican Scott Milne or the incumbent's other challengers, nor did those candidates actively seek their backing. But if either or both unions had simply declined to endorse a candidate for governor, it's possible Shumlin would not have won.



How are those unions feeling now?

A month after the election, Shumlin jettisoned plans for government-financed health care, an issue near and dear to the teachers' union.

In January, Shumlin declared in his budget address that he was counting on the VSEA to reopen its contract and give up pay increases. The union got 15 minutes' heads up that its members would be targeted in the speech. Plus, Shumlin announced, he planned to cut other state jobs by consolidating emergency call centers and closing the Community High School of Vermont, which serves inmates in state prisons.


Steve Howard


Shelley Martin

In that budget address, Shumlin also called for cutting school spending and raising student-teacher ratios, moves that would inevitably cost teachers jobs. Vermonters, he said, "expect better outcomes for our students at lower costs."

No longer do those unions believe Shumlin is standing by them.

"There are a lot of members who question that endorsement now," said Steve Howard, the VSEA's executive director.

"It's been very disappointing," said Martha Allen, president of the Vermont NEA. "I feel as though the line of doing more for less is an insult."

Vermont unions find themselves in an odd position. They worked for years to elect a Democratic governor and a huge Democratic majority in the legislature. And yet they feel barely better off than their battered labor brethren in Wisconsin where Gov. Scott Walker signed a 2011 law that limits public-employee union collective-bargaining rights.

Labor unions have never been as powerful a political force in Vermont as they are in more industrialized states. But even in Vermont, there could be political payback for Shumlin — and leaders of the legislature — if traditionally Democratic union backers rebel against the party's candidates.

"Our members are pretty fed up with relying on the status quo or powers that be to decide who's in state government," said Howard, a former Democratic state legislator who once chaired the Vermont Democratic Party.

The union is planning a new push to elect its own members to office, he said.

"We are working right now on building a labor candidates' school," Howard said. "We need our own candidates."

The Vermont-NEA is similarly irked. "He'd have to do some serious relationship-building with us if he's running for governor again," Allen said of Shumlin.

Whether those union members will have other choices remains to be seen, concedes Rep. Chris Pearson (P-Burlington), who chairs the Progressive caucus. "The political ramifications depend on whether the Progressives can mount a credible statewide campaign so they'd have somewhere else to go," he said.

Shumlin won't say whether he plans to seek reelection in 2016.

"As long as I feel I can make a difference and get things done for Vermonters, I wish to continue to do this job, if Vermonters will have me do it," he said last week.

Both union leaders and critics from the right say this standoff could have been — and perhaps could still be — avoided.

"There are efficiencies in state government," Howard said. "Our members

offered to sit down with management and identify efficiencies. The administration wasn't interested."

Others say Shumlin and the legislature should have seen the budget troubles coming.

"It was widely known that state government was spending above available revenues for the last few years," said Mike Smith, who served as secretary of administration under Republican Douglas. "This was masked in large part by federal money that eventually was going to be gone. The process of getting personnel costs in line should have begun two years ago."

Fissures emerged between Shumlin and the teachers' union even before voters went to the polls last fall. During a five-day teachers' strike in South Burlington last October, Shumlin told Vermont Public Radio such strikes should be outlawed, prompting complaints from union leaders that he was blaming them.

Relations between the unions and the governor have only grown more tense since Shumlin's January announcement that he was looking for $10.8 million in personnel savings. The VSEA outright dismissed the notion of reopening the state employees' contract it signed a year ago.

"That's not going to happen. It's really that our members can't afford to do that," Howard said, characterizing the proposal as a tax on state workers. "To say we're going to take money out of the pockets of 6,000 hardworking state employees before you'll ask the wealthiest people in the state to pay another dime is hard for them to stomach."

Last week, Shumlin's secretary of administration upped the ante by directing state agency heads to submit plans to cut up to 325 workers.

"It seems unlikely that the state's labor contract will be reopened as part of the solution to balancing the budget," Administration Secretary Justin Johnson told agency chiefs in a memo. "This situation leaves me with no alternative but to begin planning for a significant reduction in force across all sectors of Vermont state government to be effective July 1, 2015."

"That's part of the game the administration is playing," Howard said of the memo. "They're ratcheting up the pressure."

Johnson said the timing of the memo was logistical — rather than a negotiating tactic. To save $10.8 million in personnel costs in the fiscal year starting July 1, jobs must be vacated by mid-June. The process of identifying positions and allowing veteran employees to bump newer coworkers takes months, Johnson said.

It's possible, he acknowledged, that much of the savings could be achieved by eliminating 500 state positions that are currently vacant. But he said it's unclear yet how many of those are partially federally funded and whether they should be the ones to go.

"When you take vacant positions, you're taking them from wherever they happen to be that day," Johnson said. "It's a random thing."

Shumlin insists he'll initiate layoffs if necessary.

"We can achieve the 10 to 12 million in employee savings the smart way or the hard way," Shumlin said. "The hard way is to do it through layoffs, but that's what we'll do if it's our only choice. The smart way would be to sit down with the union and figure out how to not make pay cuts, but all make some reductions as a group."

HE'D HAVE TO DO SOME SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING WITH US IF HE'S RUNNING FOR GOVERNOR AGAIN.

MARTHA ALLEN, PRESIDENT
VERMONT-NEA

Reminded of his 2009 stand against layoffs proposed by his predecessor, Shumlin argued that the situation is more difficult now than it was in the depths of recession, when there was hope that revenues would rebound.

"We're in a very different place right now. We fundamentally have a situation where our growth rate is not projected to increase to 5 percent," Shumlin said. "Some of it has to come from compensation for state employees."

Not all public sector unions are crying foul over the governor's plans.

The 270-member Vermont Troopers Association has also been asked to reopen its contract.

"They're happy to sit down and talk to us," Johnson said.

VTA president Mike O'Neil declined to say whether the union would agree to reopen the contract. "We're not going to comment," he said.

The administration and the troopers' union signed a one-year contract just last month, giving its members a 2.5 percent pay raise. Shumlin could have simply held off signing the deal rather than ask to reopen negotiations, but Johnson said he did so to put the VTA on the same contract timeline as the VSEA.

So far, the Democratic legislature appears no more likely to go to bat for the unions than Shumlin is.

Just last week, House Appropriations Committee chair Mitzi Johnson (D-Grand Isle) proposed cutting $1 million from the budget of the Vermont Veterans' Home, where some 200 state employees work.

Asked last week whether he will fight to keep the home open, Shumlin said he's long supported the home. "I think my record's pretty clear," he said, but he declined to explicitly promise he could save it from the chopping block.

Other labor issues dear to the VSEA, such as paid sick leave, show no sign of advancing this year.

House Speaker Shap Smith (D-Morristown) and Senate President Pro Tempore John Campbell (D-Windsor) have supported Shumlin's insistence on reopening the state employee union's contract.

"I certainly understand why they wouldn't want to do it," Smith said of the VSEA. The legislature is looking to raise new revenue, but Smith said the notion of closing the $113 million budget gap

STATE OF THE UNION » P.22



Timely Mail, Sunday Packages: Can Burlington's New Acting Postmaster Deliver?

BY MOLLY WALSH

Heather Hogan was irked. The Burlington resident wanted to know why the U.S. Postal Service suspended her mail delivery on South Winooski Avenue for several days in late February. She said her husband promptly shoveled their front steps after a letter carrier complained they were too icy, but no mail arrived for three days and a package was in limbo for five.

"Apparently our mailman doesn't like snow," Hogan said — perhaps an inadvertent reference to the postal service line about "snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night."

Hogan said she repeatedly called the Pine Street postal distribution center without reaching a human being, and it took hours of dialing — and assistance from someone at the Elmwood Avenue branch downtown — to finally get help.

Her tale of postal woe is not isolated. Other Burlington customers have complained on Front Porch Forum this winter about mail not showing up. Postal workers have confirmed that entire routes went undelivered for days due to understaffing.

"I don't have it as bad as some people," Hogan concluded.

The postal service has received the message.

"I've been here two weeks, there were some challenges when I got here," Burlington's new acting postmaster, Jerry Reen, acknowledged last Friday.

Weather-related mail "holds" and staff vacancies were among the challenges Reen cited during a recent interview. The 25-year veteran of the postal service has worked as a letter carrier, small-town postmaster and as manager of post office operations for northern Vermont.

Reen moved into the postmaster's office on Pine Street on February 16, while his predecessor, Raymond Bourbeau, moved on to a new "detail." Reen declined to comment on Bourbeau's departure from Pine Street, as did the USPS spokeswoman for Vermont, Boston-based Melissa Lohnes.

"I actually cannot comment on personnel issues," Lohnes said.

She did comment on the harsh winter, which has been a challenge across New England this year. If snow or ice creates a hazard at a property, postal workers have the option of suspending delivery rather than risking injury, Lohnes said. Such situations usually get resolved quickly. "They do want to deliver the mail," she said. "They don't want to bring the mail back."

Even with the bitter cold and snowdrifts, regional performance was off only slightly, according to Lohnes, although she said she did not have Burlington-specific data. Carriers met delivery standards 94.5 percent of the time between January 1 and March 13 in the three-county Champlain Valley Region that includes Burlington, according to Reen and Lohnes. That's very close to the average, which is between 96 and 98 percent, they said.

> I MISS THE DAYS WHEN YOU COULD MAIL SOMETHING IN VERMONT AND IT WOULD ARRIVE THE NEXT DAY.
>
> HEATHER HOGAN

The trouble may be that "delivery standards" have changed. As of January, the U.S. Postal Service no longer strives to deliver local first-class mail the day after it's posted. New national rules set the goal at 2.1 days — a decision Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) strongly protested, saying it would slow mail to millions of Americans, lead to more job cuts and put the ailing postal service into a "death spiral."

"I miss the days when you could mail something in Vermont and it would arrive the next day," said Hogan. Now it seems to sometimes take four days, she added.

Charley McClintock, a retired letter carrier who lives in Burlington, said his own mail has failed to arrive on multiple occasions of late — something that rarely happened during his two decades on the job. It's indicative of serious staffing problems, according to McClintock, who retired in 2008.

Not getting the mail "used to be a big deal," McClintock said, adding, "The postal service is in danger, and it's not because the carriers don't care. They are getting worked into the ground."

A local union official confirmed that half a dozen routes in Burlington, South Burlington and Winooski do not have a permanent letter carrier. Mail was not delivered to addresses on South Union and South Willard streets in Burlington for three or four days this winter because no carrier was available, said Jeff Towsley, chief steward for Local 521 of the National Association of Letter Carriers. Management hasn't filled jobs fast enough as people retire or leave,

TIMELY MAIL » P.22



Jerry Reen

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Timely Mail « P.20

and that, he said, accounts for many of the service problems — not the weather.

"They knew these retirements were happening, and they didn't backfill anything," Towsley said. "It takes a long time to get people on board."

Reen confirmed he's had to bring in carriers from other locations to get the mail delivered in Burlington.

The job pays well once a letter carrier has racked up some miles. After 26 years, Towsley earned $84,400 with overtime last year, he said.

And while the pay is good, it doesn't start at $84K. Under contract rules, some new hires have to wait as long as 10 years to gain the permanent status that confers full union wages and benefits. Others get into the union in less than a year, but it still takes time to work to the top of the wage scale.

Working conditions, including the physical demands and weather as well as required overtime, can be a challenge. Experience Kring, president of Local 521, declined to comment on mandatory overtime for letter carriers or the recent delivery problems, saying he did not want to jeopardize ongoing or potential labor grievances in Burlington.

Kring works 60 hours a week most of the time, he said, noting the postal service strives to deliver on time, in every season.

Now that means working on Sundays. Even as it has phased out next-day letter delivery, the postal service is implementing an ambitious new service. Sunday package delivery started last month in parts of Chittenden County and is designed to accommodate changing consumer demand. The Pine Street Postal Service facility is currently hiring assistant carriers — starting at $15.68 per hour — to pull it off.

Many people and businesses are using email rather than snail mail for letters and bills, which has dramatically cut letter volume. The demand for package delivery is strong as people shop more online. "What we are doing is re-creating our network for the future," Lohnes said.

McClintock doesn't buy the spin. "That's a joke," said the retired letter carrier. "They can't even get the mail out now — without delivering on Sunday." ⑦

Contact: molly@sevendays.com

State of the Unions « P.19

largely through new taxes is untenable. "We're not going to raise $100 million in revenues because we'll be right back in this situation again."

Allen said she sees a difference in rhetoric coming from the legislature than from the governor, even as both are targeting school spending in ways that could force schools to close.

"We have a good working relationship with the speaker," she said. "I think he understands where we're coming from, and he respects our teachers."

Howard also said he's found legislative leaders to be open-minded, but he's looking for more.

"Shap has heard our concerns," Howard said. "We wish he were stronger in standing up against the state employee tax."

Pro-labor legislators say they are disturbed by talk of reopening contracts, even though they have yet to raise a ruckus about it. That's in part because it remains unclear how the budget cuts will play out, but also because so many other programs they value are on the chopping block.

"We haven't heard there's a better way," said Rep. Tom Stevens (D-Waterbury), vice chair of the House General, Housing and Military Affairs Committee which oversees labor issues. "They've been shaking every tree and haven't found that better way."

The VSEA has been trying to persuade lawmakers that raising taxes — or eliminating tax deductions — is a better approach than cutting pay and benefits for state workers.

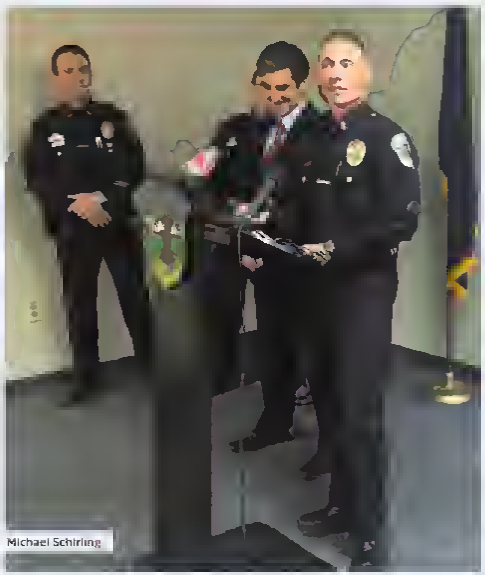
"We feel that these proposals amount to a tax — an unfair tax — on state employees," VSEA president Shelley Martin told the House Appropriations Committee last week. "Taxes should be applied in a broad-based way. State employees believe that taxes should be proportionate to income."

Last month, VSEA members gathered for a rally in the Statehouse cafeteria. Shumlin walked down the hall to listen as several union members argued against consolidating emergency call centers and the Community High School of Vermont.

They made their case. The governor made no promises. When they were done, several union members asked Shumlin to pose with them for selfies, like old friends. ⑦

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Michael Schirling

MARK DAVIS

Burlington Police Chief Schirling to Retire in June

Burlington Police Chief Michael Schirling, who started with the department as a 19-year-old auxiliary officer, announced today that he will retire in June after spending his entire career in the Queen City.

During a news conference attended by more than a dozen officers and a few city councilors, Schirling, 45, said he is leaving after seven years as chief.

"It's not the years that get you; it's the miles," Schirling, 45, said. "I want to be able to have a long life, and there's no question that this work takes a toll."

Mayor Miro Weinberger called Schirling one of the "great chiefs" in the department's 150-year history. "He is a consummate professional, always prepared ... and he never backs down from any challenge or demand placed on him or his job," Weinberger said.

The mayor credited Schirling with implementing community policing initiatives to improve the department's ties with Burlington residents and creating outreach teams to work with the mentally ill and other special needs groups. A technology geek, Schirling also created and implemented a dispatch and records-management software program for the department.

Weinberger said he will convene a search committee representing the "diversity of our city" to find a successor. Schirling said he would "absolutely" prefer that someone from within the department replace him.

Schirling began working for the department in 1989 while studying at the University of Vermont. He was a biology major who initially planned to be a doctor. Later, he switched his major to political science. Schirling said he figured he would work as a cop for starters. "I decided I'd do this for a couple years before I figured it out," Schirling said. "I'm still figuring it out.

He rose quickly through the ranks. In February 2008, he was promoted to chief to replace Tom Tremblay, who departed to run the Vermont Department of Public Safety.

A Burlington native, Schirling is married with two children. His parents still live a stone's throw from the police department. Schirling said little about his plans. "I really don't know what's next," Schirling said. "It's time to freshen up and do something else."

MARK DAVIS

Addison County Doctor and Husband of Senator Dies at 71



Alan Ayer, a well-known obstetrician-gynecologist and the husband of Sen. Claire Ayer (D-Addison), died suddenly Friday at his Addison home.

The senator learned of her 71-year-old spouse's death late Friday afternoon on her way home from the Statehouse, according to Sen. Jeanette White (D-Windham), who is a close friend.

Dr. Ayer worked at Addison Associates in Obstetrics and Gynecology and on the medical staff at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury, more recently in a part-time, semi-retired capacity. The couple had three children, now grown.

Sen. Ayer, a registered nurse, serves as Senate majority whip and chairs the Senate Health and Welfare Committee. Vice Chair Ginny Lyons (D-Chittenden) said the committee's agenda will continue as scheduled this week. Lyons and White said on Monday that it was too soon to know how long Sen. Ayer will be away.

Ayer was a key negotiator of a firearms bill due for action on the Senate floor. Senate Majority Leader Philip Baruth (D-Chittenden) said no delays were anticipated for the bill.

White, who rooms with Ayer in Montpelier during the legislative session, said Ayer spoke with her husband by phone Thursday night, and he was fine.

Daughter Allison Ayer posted a message on Facebook describing her father as an "all-around fix-it guy, joker, sage, confidante, soother of ills & worries, celebrant of life's victories."

She added: "Bereft isn't a sufficient word."

Lt. Gov. Phil Scott and Senate President Pro Tempore John Campbell (D-Windsor) sent a joint statement to senators over the weekend to inform them of Dr. Ayer's death.

"We know we speak for the entire legislature when we say we are here for Claire and her family during this very difficult time," they said.

Calling hours for Dr. Ayer were scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 20, at the Sanderson-Durkee Funeral Home on South Main Street in Middlebury. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

TERRI HALLENBECK

House Panel Votes to Ban Teacher Strikes


Rep. Dave Sharpe (left) with Martha Allen and Jeff Fannon of Vermont-NEA

TERRI HALLENBECK

Last October, after failing to reach an agreement on a new contract with the school board, South Burlington teachers went on strike. Schools closed. Parents had to make other arrangements for their children. After five days of that, the school board and teachers settled on a contract.

But before the strike ended, Gov. Peter Shumlin and others suggested that perhaps it was time for Vermont to outlaw teacher strikes, as many other states do.

On Tuesday, lawmakers took a first step in that direction. Over the strenuous objection of teachers, the House Education Committee voted 8-3 for a bill, H.76, that takes away the option to strike, requiring teachers and school boards to keep negotiating if they fail to reach an agreement.

"I think we'll be doing a good thing for Vermont in ending strikes," said Rep. Kurt Wright (R-Burlington), who sponsored the bill. "Both sides are giving up the nuclear option."

Committee Chair Dave Sharpe (D-Bristol) was among those voting against the measure, noting, "The balance is shuffled toward the school boards." The result of such legislation, Sharpe said, would enable school boards to keep teacher wages down. "Wages in the nation and in Vermont are under attack," he said. "The problem in schools is not the wages of individual teachers. It's the number of teachers in the building. This bill will do nothing to address that. I think it'll make it worse."

Teachers agree. Martha Allen, president of the Vermont National Education Association, said there have been 26 teacher strikes in Vermont since 1969 — not enough to warrant a change in law. "When teachers go on strike, it's because the school board stops negotiating," she said.

But the Vermont School Boards Association believes a change is needed, said Steve Dale, the group's executive director. "They came up with a very reasonable approach to a thorny problem," Dale said. "When you don't have on the table the possibility of a strike, the message is you've got to stay with it."

The bill goes next to the more labor-friendly House General, Housing and Military Affairs Committee. Chair Helen Head (D-South Burlington) said her committee members have been unable to find a satisfactory system for negotiations without a strike option, but will look at Wright's version. Hailing from South Burlington, Head said she recognizes the interest in preventing teacher strikes, but she said the school board there also found the strike proved effective in forcing an agreement.

Smith said he expects the bill will survive in some form for a vote by the full House.

TERRI HALLENBECK

OBITUARIES



Linda Anne Comeau

1947-2015 BURLINGTON VT

Linda (Lynn) Anne (Parrow) Comeau 67 passed away on March 7, 2015, at the University of Vermont Medical Center with her loving family by her s de.

Lynn was born December 30, 1947 in Winooski, daughter of Richard and Theresa (Desforge) Parrow. She graduated from Winooski High School in 1966. Lynn married the love of her life, Richard D. Comeau, on October 19, 1968. They were married for 46 years. Lynn was also the beloved mother of Kevin and grandmother to Tyler.

Lynn will de remembered for her love of animals, including birds, squirrels, dogs and her special cat, Cali Lynn. She loved her flower gardens, sunbathing, talking on the phone and family get-togethers. Lynn was particularly known for her writing talents, especially in poetry. She also touched many lives working as a florist for well over 20 years.

Lynn is survived by her husband, Richard (Dick) Comeau; her son, Kevin Comeau; her grandson, Tyler Comeau; her special cat, Cali Lynn; her brother-in-law, J. Robert Comeau and his wife, Pat; her sister-in-law, Kathy C. Thernault, and her husband, Henry; nieces and nephews Kim Parah, Ryan Therriault, Heather Sikora and Angie Isaacs; and great nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her uncle, Paul Destorge, and his wife, Frieda; her aunt, Claire Mercure; and her cousin, Joan Tessier and her husband, Bob. Others include special friends Judy Kellaway, Lynn Varin, Linda Shangraw and Nancy MacDonald, as well as many other special neighbors and friends she knew throughout the years.

She is predeceased by her parents, sister-in-law Mary Pat Gibbs, brother-in-law George Comeau and cousin Sue Bessette.

A special thanks goes to Dr. Diane Haddock, Dr. Jama Clough, the VNA team and the staff at UVM Medical Center.

Donations may be made in Lynn's name to the Humane Society, 142 Kindness Court, South Burlington, VT 05403.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service. Online condolences may be shared with the family at lavignefuneral home.com



Teresa Helen Leggett

1927-2015 WINOOSKI, VT

Theresa Helen Leggett, 88, died March 13, 2015, at Green Mountain Nursing Home after a brief illness. She was born the daughter of Armand and Hazel (Kirby) Guilbault on March 3, 1927. She attended Nazareth School and Mount Saint Mary's. She was married to Kenneth T. Leggett on September 4, 1948 and resided the majority of their 50 years of marriage in the Burlington/Winooski area.

She was preceded by her husband, Kenneth, in 1996, and one sister, Arlene Gonyeau; one brother, Arthur Guilbault and a special friend, Arburt Hathaway. She is survived by one sister, Marilyn; and Frank Gleason. She is also survived by two sons, Ronald and Carol Leggett and Richard and Maureen Leggett; one daughter, Rhonda Leggett, and Bill Lozell; six grandchildren, Erick and Tara Leggett, John and Christine Leggett, Crista and Eric Tourville, Angie Leggett and Matt King, Rebecca Leggett and Jordan Rodare; and Jason and Kerri Bouffard; and 12 great grandchildren, Kendall, Owen, Adelynn and Ian Logan, Emma, Austin, Zachary, Alida, Kaelyn, Colton, and Madilyn.

She was a member of the VFW Auxiliary and Catholic Daughters. She had a great sense of humor and was extremely witty. For that she was quite entertaining and a favor ite at family events. Her love was her family. Her Immaculate home was kept in order and filled with love and music. Her home was a popular spot for her ch ldren's friends, and everyone knew who was the boss. Growing up only a block away from the public skating rink allowed her to become an accomplished figure skater, and it became the sport she enjoyed the most. Her passion was music. She loved everything from the big bands to the Beatles. Her father was a drummer who hosted many fellow musicians in his home, and she learned to play piano and became extremely knowledgeable about various re-cording artists and countless song titles. Her children and grandchildren still continue this legacy started more than 100 years ago.

Visitation was held at Lavigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Winooski on March 16, 2015. The Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on March 17, 2015, at St. Joseph's Co Cathedral in Burlington. The family would also like to express their deep appreciation to the entire Green Mountain Nursing Home staff for the professional care and personal love they provide to our mother during her final two years. Condolences may be shared with the family online at lavigne funeralhome.com



Jane (Yandow) Rabidoux

1928-2015 BURLINGTON, VT

Jane (Yandow) Rabidoux passed away on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, after a brief illness at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington. She was born August 11, 1928 to the late Athur and Josephine (Metivier) Yandow. Jane married Maurice Rabidoux on January 11, 1947, at St. Stephen Church in Winooski. She worked and retired from Maternities, Inc. in Burlington.

Left to cherish her memory are her three children and their spouses, Gale (Jim) Letebvre, Gary (Annette) Rabidoux and Carol (Jim) Dousevicz; eight grandchildren, Jason Letebvre and fiance, Kerry Mahoney; Kelly (Brian) Daum; Jed (Kelly) Dousevicz, Brad (Emily) Dousevicz, Luke (Allie) Dousevicz, Lisa (Jon) Michel, Denise Radidoux and Santiago Rodriguez; and Daryl Rabidoux; her great grandchildren Kyle and Brittany Michel, Amanda and Christopher Letebvre, Kylee Daum, Skye and Hudson Rabidoux; and Reed, Ty, Ryan, Quinn, Alice, Reese and Callen Dousevicz; her sister in law, Jackie Rabidoux; many nieces and nephews; extended family; a very special friend, Joyce Harris; and count less friends. She was predeceased by her husband; parents; her 10 sidlings and their spouses; and her in laws.

On behalf of Jane and her entire family, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to the McClure 5 and 6 doctors, nurses, and staff including the Palative Care staff for their exceptional care and much appreciated compassion. We would also like to thank everyone at Mansbeld Place for their love and care for the last few months.

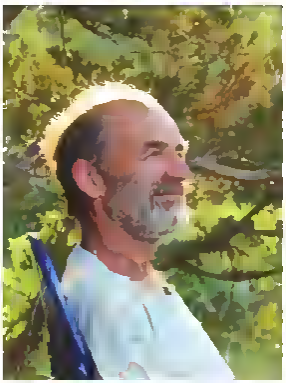
Interment announcement to follow in the spring. Donations in her memory may be made to the Chittenden County Humane Society. Arrangements are under the care and direction of the LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service. Condolences may be shared with the family online at lavigne funeralhome.com



John "Jack" P. Flaherty

1950-2015 NORTH HERO, VT

John "Jack" P. Flaherty passed away unexpectedly at the University of Vermont Medical Center on March 10, 2015. Jack was born in Newport on October 14, 1950, to John J. and Bertha (Duclos) Flaherty. He was a graduate of Winooski High School, class of 1968, and later graduated from Lyndon State College. Jack loved to travel and lived be-tween Hawaii, California and Vermont. While in California, he was a firm investigator for the law offices of Wilson Elser. In Vermont, he was a private investigator. Upon retiring last year, he returned to Vermont to continue what he loved to do the most: hunt, fish and spend time in Lincoln. Jack leaves behind his four beloved children, Caitlyn, Courtney (Derek), Cody and Chelsea; granddaughter Lou; sisters Pat Scarola, Judy Barron and Kathleen Posey; eight nieces and neph-ews and 11 great nieces and nephews; the mother of his children, Debra Laseter; and his girlfriend, Sharon Suang. Interment will be at a later date. Arrangements are under the care and direction of LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service. Condolences may be shared with the family online at lavignefuneralhome.com



Peter Norman Dingman Watson

1944-2015 AVON N Y

Peter Norman Dingman Watson departed peacefully from this life in his beloved Vermont sugar woods on March 6 2015, at age 70 The son of artist Aldren A. Watson and writer Nancy Dingman he was born in Paterson N.J on September 7 1944 Peter graduated from the Putney School and the University of Vermont. He and his first wife Tina Cunningham bought land in Fairfield Vt., and raised two sons there He resided for the past 32 years In Avon, N Y returning to Vermont for maple sugaring each spring Peter inspired many during his rich life with his array of talents Including turning stoneware pottery and creating metalwork and sculpture on his homemade forge haying logging and sugaring with draft horses fine woodworking and carpentry boatbuilding and sailing playing the banjo and bagpipes and identifying trees He loved skiing and hiking in the Adirondack and Green Mountains He once raced a train on his favorite pony built a sailing dory drove from Vermont to Tierra del Fuego worked on Nelson Rockefeller's cattle ranch in Venezuela shaved off his beard and played the bagpipes on the shores of Loch Ness In Scotland

Peter's large extended family was a source of strength and joy to him His enthusiasm patience humor and compassion for everyone he met, his curiosity and spirituality and the distinct twinkle in his eye will remain with the multitude who loved him.

Peter leaves his wife Clara Mulligan, his children Alexander and wife Wendy Raymond and Peter Jr and wife Molly Severeid all of Fairfield Vt., Holly Watson of Geneseo N Y., and Forrest Watson of Honeoye Falls N Y siblings Wenby Watson of Phoenix Ariz Clyde Watson and husband Denis Devlin of Etna N H Linda Watson of Monkton Vt. Ann Watson of New Haven Vt. N Cameron Watson of Truro Mass Caitlin McLeob of Santa Cruz Calif., and Thomas Watson and wife Francie Rahbolph of Truro Mass four grandchildren and many nieces nephews cousins and dear friends.

Peter was buried on his family's property in Vermont. A celebration of his life will be held in Avon at a later date In lieu of flowers donations may be made to NOFA Vermont.

George E. Wilford Sr.

1931-2015 WILLIAMSTOWN VT

George E "Sonny" "Willie" Wilford Sr passed away on March 10 2015 He was born March 7 1931 In Williamstown to George and Ruth Wilford He worked for many years as a carpenter mason plumber and factory worker and on the railroad He was a former member of the Civil Air Patrol and was a member of the Eagles He enjoyed raising sheep fixing things and working with his hands

Left to cherish his memory are his children George Wilford Jr Sheryal Ann Wilford Robin Lynn Whalon and Greagory Alan Wilford their mother Nancy Castle his siblings Elizabeth Morin and Janice Brousseau his friend Kay Marquette, and several grandchildren nieces nephews extended family and countless friends He was predeceased by his infant sisters Ruby Wilford and Marien Wilford and by his brothers Gary Robert and John Wilford Sr

Per his wishes his ashes will be scattered in his beloved Lake Champlain Arrangements are under the care and direction of LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service Condolences may be shared with the family online at lavignefuneralhome com



IN MEMORIAM

A memorial service for Bonnie Christensen will be held at All Souls Interfaith Gathering 291 Bostwick Farm Road Shelburne Vt., on Saturday March 21 at 3 p m light reception to follow

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OBITUARIES • IN MEMORIAM • ENGAGEMENTS
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A Singer's Series Brings Rarely Heard Songs to Town

BY AMY LILLY

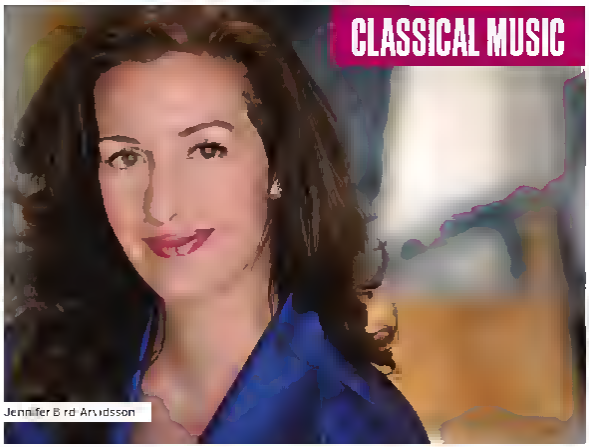
"Music is a lot of men in a lot of tails with a lot of chairs, and a lot of airs, and a lot of furs and diamonds!" So Colorado soprano Jennifer Bird Arvidsson will sing next Wednesday evening at a Saint Michael's College recital, accompanied by Shelburne pianist PAUL ORGEL. The lyrics are part of Leonard Bernstein's cycle of five "kid songs" for soprano and piano called "I Hate Music," written back in 1943. Yet the image they paint of what it means to attend a classical concert, especially a voice recital, persists.

BILL REED, the South Burlington voice teacher who is hosting the recital as the second in his biannual series "The Singer's Art," has done much to dispel that anachronism. Reed is offering the series not just to give the public a chance to hear fine opera singers, but to expose his students to a type of singing they may not otherwise hear live.

Classically trained himself, Reed had a long career of choral singing, soloing and conducting before he joined the famed Circle in the Square in New York City to provide Broadway performers with singing instruction. Today, the majority of his students — he teaches an average of 125 per week at his home — come to learn the belting style that's current on Broadway. But Reed makes sure they know the full solo repertoire and range of techniques.

"It's just part of their general music education," Reed says of concerts in his series. "It's my effort to give them a broad education about vocal music for the solo voice." He has made this concert free and scheduled it midweek to ensure that no student has an excuse not to go — and no adult feels the lack of tails or diamonds.

CLASSICAL MUSIC



Jennifer Bird Arvidsson

COURTESY OF JENNIFER BIRD ARVIDSSON

The performers in the inaugural "The Singer's Art" concert were two young Reed protégés now launching opera careers, Vermont natives CHRISTOPHER COLMENERO and GEOFFREY PENAR. By contrast, Bird-Arvidsson, 43, sang opera on Germany's state-funded stages for 14 years before she joined the voice faculty at the University of Colorado Boulder in 2009. CU's enviable music department produces several fully staged operas a year and has a separate program dedicated to staging new American operas — most recently an adaptation of Colm Tóibín's novel *The Master*.

Also a regular soloist, Bird-Arvidsson last performed with the renowned Takács Quartet and with the Colorado Symphony. She didn't train with Reed, he's a friend of her mother, a voice teacher in New York who has worked with Metropolitan Opera soprano Martina Arroyo, among others.

Bird-Arvidsson's repertoire tends toward the rarely heard. Even the Dehussy she'll be singing in Colchester — one of three ethereal "romances" the composer wrote in the 1880s — is "the one nobody knows. But it's absolutely stunning," says the soprano.

Vermont audiences likewise rarely have a chance to hear the Mahler songs Bird-Arvidsson will perform; they're drawn from "The Youth's Magic Horn," a dozen songs for soprano from the 1880s and later, for which Mahler wrote both orchestral and piano accompaniments. The composer's telltale trumpet

Vermont's Cartoonist Laureate Ed Koren Has a Suitably 'New Yorker' Exhibit

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

EDWARD KOREN's two worlds — Vermont and New York City — are alternating settings for a dozen of the drawings included in a sampling of his work currently on display at a Manhattan gallery. The rest of the 25 pieces in "Wet Ink" and "Bikes and Beasts" are situated in an imagined realm where hairy creatures, mostly sporting intricate antlers, pedal bicycles across barren landscapes.

Koren, who's edging toward 80, is Vermont's cartoonist laureate. He draws in a scribbly style readily recognizable to any regular reader of the *New Yorker*. He began selling cartoons to the magazine in 1962 when he himself was a New Yorker, and continues that association from the home in Brookfield, where he has lived full time for many years. Koren's work also appears on many a poster or T-shirt he created pro bono for nonprofits in his adopted state.

One of Koren's it's-got-to-be-Vermont drawings in the New York exhibit depicts a rural bar with "lite" beer on tap, a TV set in a corner and pool players in the background. In the image, which ran in the *New Yorker*, a guy wearing a hunter's cap holds up a glass of wine and asks the bemused, tattooed bartender, "Hey, Jimmy — am I nuts or does this have a hint of oak?"

In another drawing, a similarly gentle putdown of gourmet pretensions takes place in a fancy restaurant that is surely in Manhattan. A formally dressed mom and dad look up from their menus as their pigtailed daughter asks the waitress, "And exactly how is the peanut butter and jelly prepared?"

ART



COURTESY OF ED KOREN

Koren's *New Yorker* cartoons usually take "quotidian themes" as their subject, observes Luise Ross, owner of the gallery in the Chelsea art district that bears her name. "That's his gift — to make the ordinary funny."

But the other drawings

solos will be missing from the recital, but Orgel, one of Vermont's finest solo pianists, can be counted on to translate their forlorn and haunting import.

Perhaps even less often heard is the concert's centerpiece, Alban Berg's *Seven Early Songs*, chosen by the composer from the dozens of songs he wrote in the first decade of the 20th century, when he was in his early twenties and studying with Schoenberg. The songs' sweepingly dramatic phrasing and resistance to harmonic resolution put them squarely in the late Romantic style.

I VERY, VERY MUCH LOVE MUSIC THAT'S FROM THE 1880S TO THE 1920S — FRENCH, GERMAN, ALL OF IT.

JENNIFER BIRD ARVIDSSON

Says Bird Arvidsson, "I very, very much love music that's from the 1880s to the 1920s — French, German, all of it — the really rich Romanticism right before it headed into the atonal stuff."

She also simply likes drama, no matter the era. Wednesday's program includes a Purcell song from circa 1693 — not his recital standard "Dido's Lament" but the lesser known "The Blessed Virgin's Expostulation," a desperate plea by Jesus' mother when she finds her 12-year-old has gone missing. "It's really moving, and Purcell's a very dramatic composer," says Bird-Arvidsson, herself a mother of two.

The soprano's flair for drama is evident in the YouTube clip of her singing Eurydice in Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld*, where her acting helps her communicate the music effortlessly. Bird-Arvidsson won one Bavarian opera house's audience award twice during her career in Germany.

She'll share her talents in two master classes at the University of Vermont during her visit, for Reed's students and for those of Burlington soprano **SARAH CULLINS**, a UVM affiliate artist. Reed says he hopes to snag Cullins for his series one day, as well as more of his former students, including one who just made her Lincoln Center jazz debut. But, he warns wryly of the series, "It's 'suggested donation' I can't do too many of them. It's a public service." ⑦

Contact: lilly@sevendaysvt.com

INFO

"The Singer's Art Concert Series" soprano Jennifer Bird-Arvidsson with pianist Paul Orgel. Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., at McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall, Saint Michael's College in Colchester. Donations.

HUMAN OR AVIAN, KOREN'S FIGURES APTLY CONVEY THE ARTIST'S OWN DROLL YET WARM-HEARTED SENSIBILITY.

in the show, as well as a set of five lithographs that feature scraggly-nosed, beady-eyed beasts on bikes, clearly were not inspired by daily life. So where did they come from?

They're representations of "how I feel sometimes, particularly in hostile traffic," explains Koren, who's been riding bikes, mostly joyously, for seven decades. The shaggy cyclists are also suggestive of "a state of nature, which is what a bike takes you back to," he says. He sees, hears and smells plenty of nature while riding his mountain bike along dirt roads near his rural home.

Koren's beasts all wear blank or grimly determined expressions as they pedal singly or in groups. His invariably long-nosed men and women, however, almost always smile wryly or bashfully, whether in a Vermont farmyard or with the Brooklyn Bridge as a backdrop. It's a look he gives even to the three sets of songbirds perched on tiered telephone wires and labeled "Basses, Tenors, Sopranos."

Human or avian, Koren's figures aptly convey the artist's own droll yet warm-hearted sensibility.

"Wet Ink" affords visitors the opportunity to encounter Koren as an artist, not just as a jokester. The show's selection of original drawings made for the *New Yorker* are roughly four times the size of the reproductions that ran in the magazine. They enable viewers to appreciate the quality of his line and the clarity of his compositions. ⑦

INFO

"Wet Ink" and "Bikes and Beasts" on view through April 11 at the Luise Ross Gallery in New York City. luiserossgallery.com





Poet Daniel Lusk Recollects His Past Through *Girls*

BY RICK KISONAK

BOOKS



Daniel Lusk



Most authors you "know" only through the inevitable blurb on their book jackets. Sometimes, though, you get to meet a writer at a reading or other literary event and find out how the description matches up with the flesh-and-blood person. Burlington poet **DANIEL LUSK** published a memoir in 2014 (I'm a little late getting to it, OK?) with the marvelous title *Girls I Never Married*. His author blurb reads like this:

"Daniel Lusk is author of several collections of poetry, a novel, and other works of fiction and nonfiction. His poems, stories and essays have appeared widely in literary journals and anthologies ... He has received the Gertrude Claytor Award from the Poetry Society of America and Pablo Neruda Poetry Prize from *Nimrod International Journal*. ... He lives with his wife, Irish poet Angela Patten, in Burlington, Vermont."

When I had occasion to meet Lusk in person, I thought the blurb and the man were a dandy match, and that I had a pretty good head on just who he is. Then I read his memoir. It is high praise to say that I never had a clue.

Girls I Never Married isn't an account of Lusk's life. It's an account of his *lives*. As I read, I wondered how the fifty-something-looking fellow I'd met had squeezed so much into so few decades, including a low-budget Iowa childhood and careers as a South Dakota preacher, sportswriter, lounge singer, member of a Missouri rock band, ranch hand, itinerant poet and college professor.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO KNOW LUSK PERSONALLY TO ENJOY TAKING THIS LITERARY TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH HIM.

The explanation astonished me even more than that résumé. The author is actually seventysomething. Go figure.

You don't have to know Lusk personally to enjoy taking this literary trip down memory lane with him. His has been a remarkable evolution, and he recounts it with the depth of insight and sublimity of language you'd expect from an exceptional poet. On the origin of his love of words, he writes this: "I learned the language of the Bible as I learned English. The sonorous language of the King James Bible ... was my Shakespeare, mingling with the marrow of my bones as I grew."

As the book title suggests, *Girls* also chronicles Lusk's lifelong appreciation for the opposite sex. Of a car ride one night with Miss Spirit Lake, he writes, "during those few blocks that she rode ... she would come to stand for all the women in my life, especially those who never slept with me, but who nevertheless have lived forever young in my memory."

Unlike some of us who lived through the 1960s, the author actually remembers that time, and fondly. "Many of us headed for the countryside. What could be more healthy, honest and natural than growing our own food, swimming naked in ponds, and enjoying sex with new friends and even strangers?" he asks rhetorically.

The memoir offers fascinating glimpses into the developing artist's process. Lusk recalls, for example, walking in the dark when "something surprising happened that I have come to depend on for night walks, the same thing that happens when I am writing poems ... some way of being conscious that is the opposite of concentration."

Alternately meditative, fall-down funny and literate in the most unpretentious ways, *Girls I Never Married* offers excellent writing and is an excellent read. This is a memoir with a chapter titled "Lip-synching T.S. Eliot" that begins: "Bianca was the sort of woman a writer puts into a book so he can read about her for the rest of his life."

One might be hard-pressed to find anywhere but in Lusk's memoir a description of an illegal abortion with an allusion to Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" ("In the room the women come and go ...").

Pages later, Lusk presents a Hemingway-worthy depiction of a heifer's slaughter accompanied by the dictum: "People who eat animal flesh should be willing to kill or see it killed."

Regrets, he's had a few. Some of the characters who might have been the most significant in *Girls* are the ones Lusk leaves out. "I have not written about my children ... Nor wives except in passing," he writes. "I balked at being a preacher, was an absent father ... Instead I took up writing and teaching and eventually became a college administrator and lecturer with a mortgage."

And Lusk has taken on yet another life, as his blurb reminds us, with Patten, who's written her own memoir. You might like to think of the two sitting at home, silently reading each other's life stories. But it's likelier they're both moving on to new adventures that eventually will find their way to chapter or verse. ⑦

INFO

Girls I Never Married: A Memoir by Daniel Lusk, Wind Ridge Books of Vermont. 160 pages. $15.95.





so i was
S-O-[illegible]-ing
(or something)
with my brother the other day, when he said..

your diary comics are at their best when you tackle controversial issues—



i generally avoid contentious online debate. everyone's got an opinion, and i don't want to feed the trolls



but daniel's usually right; so here's what i think of the israeli-palestinian conflict

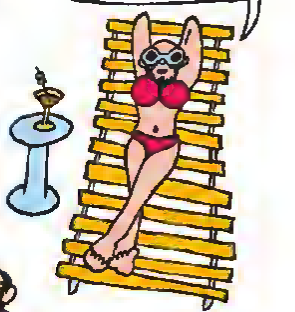


ERR—on second thought—want to hear a knock-knock joke?





i completely forget about winter every single year







it's like—what does this even mean?



but it seems like the end is finally in sight!

which means a seasons worth of dog waste will be revealed



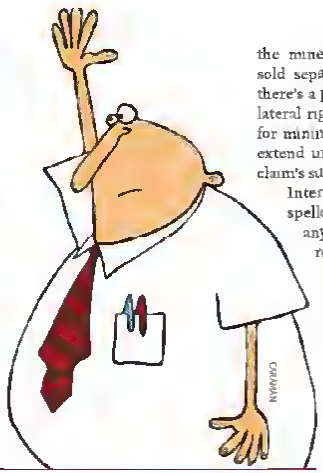
JONATHAN ROTSZTAIN has been making a one-page diary comic every day since December 2013. For the complete archives and new weekly strips, visit drearydiarycomics.tumblr.com and follow Jonathan on Twitter @JRDTSZTA.

DRAWN & PANELED IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN *SEVEN DAYS* AND THE CENTER FOR CARTOON STUDIES IN WHITE RIVER JUNCTION. FEATURING WORKS BY PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS. THESE PAGES ARE ARCHIVED AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/CENTER-FOR CARTOON-STUDIES**. FOR MORE INFO VISIT CCS ONLINE AT **CARTOONSTUDIES.ORG**

Dear Cecil,

I was watching *G.I. Joe: Retaliation*, and these government types taking a prisoner to an underground facility in a former East German mine shaft made some comment about how they'd gone so deep they were no longer technically in Germany and were now in international territory. Lunacy aside, are there international agreements on how deep someone's sovereign boundaries run? If someone runs a rail line 10 miles underground from London to Moscow, would the developers or governments have to get approval from all the countries they would go under?

Steve Selman



To review: What we have here is an admitted watcher of *G.I. Joe* movies suggesting that — "lunacy aside," mind you — one might plausibly dig a tunnel running the breadth of northern Europe *without* getting the surface dwellers on board. I'm not sure I have anything to add before we move on.

OK, backing up a bit. The accepted legal wisdom in the U.S. long held that property rights associated with a plot of land extended *usque ad coelum et ad inferos*, up to the heavens and down to hell, here meaning to the center of the earth. But, as I mentioned when explaining why you can't just shoot down planes flying over your house, the *ad coelum* part didn't survive the advent of aviation — the Supreme Court threw it out in 1946. And in a 2008 article, property law professor John Sprankling argues that despite its continuing prevalence in American legal texts, the center-of-the-Earth theory (we'll call it COTE) isn't actually the law either. His key conclusions:

1. There's no common-law basis for COTE — the English jurist William Blackstone pulled it out of his ass circa 1765.

2. More importantly, courts haven't actually ruled in a COTE-consistent manner. They'll generally uphold a landowner's subterranean rights near the surface, but "the deeper the dispute, the less likely courts are to recognize the surface owner's title."

3. At depths below the immediate subsurface but less than two miles down, court decisions and statutes have created so many exceptions to COTE that it can't really be considered a rule.

4. Whether the surface owner's rights go any deeper than two miles underground is something U.S. law has never established.

Subterranean property rights also vary depending on what you're trying to get at down there. Oil, flowing where it will, is governed in the U.S. under the "rule of capture," as admirers of Daniel Day-Lewis may remember. Anything you can produce from a vertically drilled well on your property is yours, even if it comes from underneath your neighbor's land. Mineral deposits are generally assumed to belong to the surface owner (unless the mineral rights have been sold separately), but here too there's a principle called extralateral rights, which can allow for mining parts of a vein that extend underground beyond a claim's surface boundaries.

International law hasn't spelled much of this out in any blanket fashion, and really it hasn't had to, as thus far few conflicts seem to have arisen from any ambiguity. In part this may be because only a relatively small portion of Earth's crude oil reservoirs lie beneath international borders. One place where they do, though, is the Iraq-Kuwait border, a major point in the dispute that led to the 1991 gulf war was Iraq's claim that Kuwait had used slant drilling to pump billions of dollars' worth of oil out of the Iraqi side of the field.

Sometimes the issue is figuring out where the borders are. A nation's territorial waters extend 12 nautical miles off its coast, but its exclusive economic zone, where it has rights to natural resources, go out 200 miles. Currently Russia, Canada and Denmark (via Greenland) are each asserting that the Lomonosov Ridge in the Arctic Ocean is an extension of their respective continental shelves, thus expanding their EEZ to include potentially oil-laden stretches of Arctic floor that previously seemed pretty useless.

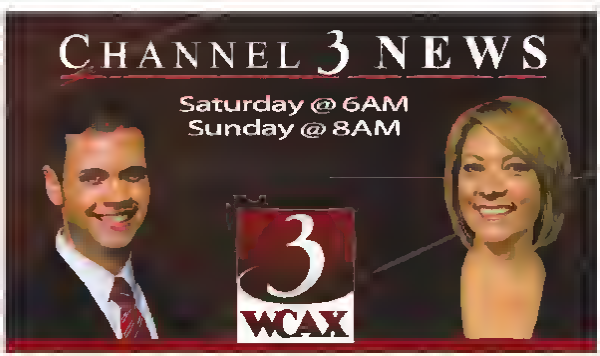
Recent developments in the energy industry may require refinement of underground law — a big one being fracking, where injected hydraulic fluid is used to break up subsurface rock and release oil and natural gas. When this fluid finds its way under neighboring property, the rule of capture butts up against the concept of subsurface trespass, which covers things like slant drilling; court rulings thus far haven't done much to sort it out.

Geologic sequestration — stowing captured CO_2 emissions in underground cavities — raises some similar questions. To get the EPA's go-ahead, a would-be sequesterer has to show that the gas won't seep into the water supply, but issues of (e.g.) leakage into adjacent property currently have to be wrangled out under local law.

Anyway, in the absence of clearer guidance, it's safest to say, yes, anyone who wants to run a 10-mile-deep railway tunnel from London to Moscow should at least get in touch with the Germans, Poles, et al. before making with the shovels. Oh, and also: At 10 miles down the temperature will be about 750 degrees, so make sure that bar car has plenty of ice.

INFO

Is there something you need to get straight? Cecil Adams can deliver the Straight Dope on any topic. Write Cecil Adams at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago, IL 60611, or **cecil@chireader.com**.







Pheasants and Peasants

"Is it always this busy in Burlington?" the woman inquired from the backseat of my taxi. It was Saturday night of the Mardi Gras weekend. "It was hard to get a hotel room."

This woman and her partner were down from Montréal visiting town on a ski vacation. While Burlington is not, strictly speaking, a "ski town," it often serves as a base camp for tourists skiing at Smugglers', Bolton, Stowe and Sugarbush. Sometimes even Jay Peak, though that's a hefty commute.

I glanced up at my customer in the rear-view mirror, considering whether her question was a lighthearted joke. "Well, the Mardi Gras festivities draw a ton of visitors," I replied, stating the obvious.

"Mardi Gras?" she asked, genuinely puzzled. "Isn't that in one of your southern states? Like New Orleans?"

I stifled a laugh and explained to her the phenomenon of Mardi Gras in Burlington. Which, it turns out, is not an easy thing to make sense of without delving into the fertile mind of Alan Newman, the storied founder of Magic Hat Brewing, the sponsor of this annual event.

Our unlikely local version of Mardi Gras has grown into one of my busiest workdays of the year, joining such stalwarts as the Vermont Brewers Festival, the July Fourth celebration and New Year's Eve. It turns out that everyone loves a party, and Mardi Gras is nothing if not the ultimate excuse to get publicly wild and crazy. And that type of partying (I'm so glad) often requires cabs.

Friday night is the warm-up for the Saturday parade and all-night revelry. In advance of that, I took a pair of back-to-back Stowe runs during the day on Friday. A morning fare to the Green Mountain Inn left me with a three-hour break before an afternoon pickup at the Topnotch Resort, so it wasn't worth it to return to Burlington. Luckily, Stowe is home to an excellent, and apparently well-funded, library. I considered arriving with pastries for the librarians in a show of appreciation, but, after going back and forth, decided that gesture would be over the top. I contentedly whiled away the three hours ensconced in a comfy chair with a stack of old Vermont photo books.

My Topnotch customer was an accountant from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Not to stereotype the profession, but the guy was as square as a Rubik's Cube. Shooting for conviviality, I made some joke about hosers, referring the old Bob and Doug McKenzie Canadian TV skit.

He said, "What's a hoser? Do you mean Hoosier?"

I proceeded to explain to him the difference between a "hoser" and a "Hoosier." Things didn't go uphill from there, but, then again, I don't expect every conversation to evoke the Algonquin Round Table.

If I thought that Friday was a busy day of cabbing, Saturday put it to shame. The calls started coming in the late morning and didn't stop until the wee hours of Sunday. When it was all said and done, I had driven 15 straight hours, with just a few short breaks to scarf down a couple of pizza slices, gas up and — can you guess? — urinate.

Days like this used to be a piece of cake, but age has taken its toll on my previously Energizer Bunny-like constitution. I can still pull them off on a spot basis, but not without repercussions — though not of the type you'd imagine. Sure, the cascade of hours wears me down physically, but the mental strain is more insidious. Specifically, as the hours pile up, that strain degrades my ability to suffer fools gladly, a crucial aptitude for any night cabbie. And, just when I can least handle it, a customer inevitably tests my patience.

I BALLPARKED IT AND RAN THE CHARGE AT 17 EVEN. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER.

My tester entered the cab at three in the morning as my penultimate fare of the night: a twentysomething girl returning with a partner to what I assume was her parents' home on Spear Street. It was her voice, oozing entitlement, that plugged me in like a charger.

There was talk of a Martinique Christmas vacation, and how it fell "woefully" short of her expectations. There was a lot of clothing discussion — Dolce & Gabbana, Versace, Yves St. Laurent. At one point, as we passed the Gutterson Fieldhouse and she was still yapping, I'm pretty sure she ordered a Fendi ski jacket on her cellphone, pausing only to ask her boyfriend whether to go with the blue or green.

It's not that I envy rich people. I just resent (there, I've said it) the ones who exhibit not a shred of gratitude, not a modicum of humility and, therefore, not a clue how to interact with a cabdriver with class or nobility.

We arrived at her opulent Pheasant Way home, where I understand many of the residents partake in pheasant hunts on the weekends, hence the street name. The fare was 15 and change, and she handed me a credit card. To process credit charges, I use a cellphone device called PayAnywhere. The app can be set up with all manner of options, but, as I am a digital dolt, I keep it as simple as possible.

Before entering the fare and swiping her card, I asked, as I always do, "Would you like to add a tip?"

"Can't I do that myself?" she replied. This was the first time in the two years I'd been accepting credit cards that a customer had made this request.

Sorry, it's not set up that way. If you want to tip, just tell me how much and I'll add it on the fare."

"Well, *that* totally won't work for me," she explained, petulant as a petunia. "I want to add 12 percent, and I want to do it on my own."

If I were a volcano, this would be the stage where I began rumbling and belching large puffs of smoke.

"Look, I can figure the 12 percent, OK?" I pushed back.

"Just let the cabbie do this, all right?" the boyfriend beseeched her. "I'm completely beat and want to get to bed."

"Oh, just do it, then," the girl said, capitulating. Oh, the vexation, the burden!

I wasn't getting out a calculator, so I ballparked it and ran the charge at 17 even. I should have known better.

"Hey!" she barked when she saw the amount go through. "I think that's over 12 percent!"

"Well, my goodness, I'm *so* sorry," I said, disingenuous as a Fox News host. "Would you like your 18 cents change? I would be happy to dig that out for ya."

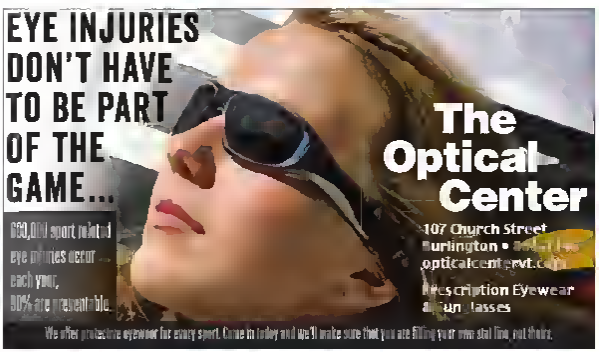
Luckily, before she could respond, her boyfriend opened the door, stepped out and extracted her with a chuckle. I wasn't proud of myself for the shade I had thrown this woman. Attitude is no excuse for attitude, long hours behind the wheel notwithstanding.

Well, there you have it, I thought as I steered back toward town. *Maybe I really do have Fendi envy.* 7

All these stories are true, though names and locations may be altered to protect privacy.

INFO

Hackie is a twice-monthly column that can also be read on **sevendaysvt.com**. To reach Jernigan, email **hackie@sevendaysvt.com**.





THREATS, LAWSUITS

An ongoing feud in Victory illustrates the dark side of small-town life

BY MARK DAVIS



Photo illustration Aaron Shrewsbury

Norman Rockwell's iconic painting "Freedom of Speech" captures the civility of small-town democracy. The painter said he was inspired by a Vermont town meeting — specifically a man who stood up to speak out in dissent while his neighbors looked on respectfully.

That's not how town meetings have been going down in the Northeast Kingdom town of Victory, population 62, for as long as residents can remember.

During last year's meeting, Walter Mitchell rose and sarcastically nominated his longtime rival, Jan Stanley, to serve on the selectboard.

"I would like to nominate the most talented person in this room, they got all the answers. They have all the answers for years. The only thing I know smarter is my jackass, and I shot him," Mitchell, 63, said, according to meeting minutes. "That person is Jan Stanley."

Stanley called him "rude," according to the minutes, and declined the insincere nomination.

"I don't regret that statement one iota," Mitchell said during a recent interview in Victory, before hastening to add that he hadn't actually shot a donkey. "That was just a slam. I never hurt a donkey."

The Northeast Kingdom may look sepia-toned to outsiders, but Victory has been torn apart by nasty personal feuds between neighbors who can't even recall what precipitated them. While the stakes are laughably small, the enmity is huge. The Essex County Sheriff's Department provides security at every Victory selectboard meeting.

And the acrimony extends beyond the town hall. Members of rival groups have taken out no-trespassing orders against the others. The selectboard chair is convinced that a rival has tapped her phone. Several residents tell stories of having pets that they believe were maliciously killed. Almost everyone says they have received anonymous, threatening letters at one time or another.

"We're screwed up, basically," former town clerk and treasurer Carol Easter said.

In the late 1990s, the *Boston Globe* twice sent a reporter to Victory to document the conflict. Describing Victory as "less Norman Rockwell and more Edgar Allan Poe," the *Globe* reported on threatening letters, lawsuits, a pet ram that appeared to have been killed and accusations of financial shenanigans.

Two recent skirmishes have intensified the feuding.

In January, a handful of town officials revoked a tax exemption for a small humane society run by Patricia Mitchell, Walter's wife. Mitchell turned around and sued the town, accusing the officials of carrying out a personal vendetta against her.

This year's town meeting was dominated by news that an independent audit of Victory's books has turned up missing records, undocumented spending and evidence of possible embezzlement from the town, which has a $500,000 budget. A private accountant told the Victory residents gathered earlier this month that she had found "very significant problems" dating back several years. Her findings have triggered a new round of accusations and name-calling. Two law enforcement officers were on hand to help control the ensuing debate.

Essex County Sheriff Trevor Colby said he has lost count of how many times his office has received complaints and requests for investigations from Victory. He laughs off most of them.

"You're talking few people, long-term relationships, families that have been there for years," Colby said. "In small towns, they don't have a ton of supervision of employees, so it's just ripe for accusations." And with about 25 elected or appointed town positions to fill, nearly half of Victory's residents are involved in town affairs. "The votes to change leadership are so close, and the accusations are so fierce," said Colby, "that there's times where it gets out of hand."

Isolation Breeds Contempt

There are no schools in Victory. No post office, stores, gas stations or

AND DEAD ANIMALS



churches indicate a town center. A crooked sign on the edge of town announces matter-of-factly, "Town of Victory."

Most residents live on a few dirt roads scratched into Victory Hill, where modest homes provide views of New Hampshire's White Mountains. The other area, Gallup Mills, is six miles away and consists mostly of trailer homes, ranging from tidy to crumbling, clustered in a small valley. In between are about 20,000 acres of state-owned forest and bogs. A bumpy dirt road connects the two areas.

Even by Vermont standards, it's isolated. Victory was one of the last two towns in Vermont to get electricity. Ambulances take 20 to 45 minutes to arrive, according to residents.

But neither geography nor socioeconomic status can explain the feud, which everyone interviewed for this article acknowledged has been raging for about 20 years. No one could say what started it.

"You see how lonely it is, how out of the way it is?" asked resident Donna Bacchiochi. "The reason we moved here is we aren't social. People in Victory are like that. They don't visit each other, they don't kibitz, they don't do anything like that. It's vicious."

THE TOWN ISN'T JUST CORRUPT, IT'S UTTERLY CORRUPT.
SANDRA HUDSON

There are two factions in town. One is headed by Patricia Mitchell—of humane society fame — and her husband, Walter, who currently serves on the selectboard. Other members of the "Mitchell Mafia," as a rival refers to them, include former road agent Walt Neborsky and his wife, Ruth, who used to be the town clerk and treasurer.

The current town clerk and treasurer, Tracey Martel, is also considered part of the Mitchell group, which for years wielded the most influence in town.

But the power has since shifted so that the other faction — selectboard chair Ferne Loomis, town lister Stanley, Sandra Hudson and former town clerk and treasurer, Easter — now holds a majority on the selectboard.

Not surprisingly, the Mitchell group has a plan to regain power. Its supporters have submitted a petition to expand the number of seats on the selectboard, from three to five, in hopes of electing two allies and recapturing the majority. If the petition passes, nearly 10 percent of Victory's registered voters would serve on the town's primary governing body — in Burlington, the equivalent would be 4,000 city councilors.

Victory's residents are pretty evenly split between the two feuding factions. Most of them don't have jobs — the selectboard estimates that more than 80 percent of residents are collecting either retirement or disability payments. And many of those who do work are part-time builders or contractors. The selectboard meets at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, which, in a typical Vermont town, would surely discourage citizen participation.

Victory, it seems, has the opposite problem.

Fatal Attraction Tactics

In February, word got out around Victory that Martel was considering a run for town clerk and treasurer. She opened her mailbox one afternoon and found an anonymous letter.

"Lady, you have been had," it read, accusing Martel's allies in town of stealing money, burning town records and embezzling from charities. It went on to suggest Martel was "joining the ICIS of Victory," misspelling the acronym for the Islamic terrorist organization, and her life was about to become "pure hell." It ended by asking Martel, who is married, if she was having sex with a former town official.

The letter shocked Martel, who had moved from Florida to Vermont the year before.

By Victory standards, though, it was tame.

In 1997, Stanley, now 62, was arrested on charges of threatening to burn down the home of a political rival — she was placed on probation after agreeing to a plea deal, according to the *Globe*. Stanley says her statements were taken out of context and that she was a victim of harassment at the time.

Numerous animals — innocent victims in the battle royale — have been less lucky, according to residents. The Mitchells claimed a friend's sheep was strangled several years ago, and they suspect their

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own dog was poisoned. Stanley said she found her pet cat dead on her porch, with its tail cut off and wrapped around its neck.

Calling the Mitchells "horse thieves," she said they are solely responsible for the years of bitter fighting in Victory.

"The Mitchells are the ringleaders," Stanley said. "They are very devious, hateful."

In a letter published in this year's town report, Stanley intimated that Patricia Mitchell had misappropriated $1,000 donated by town residents two decades ago by sarcastically thanking her for recently "returning" it. Mitchell denied any wrongdoing.

Stanley is one of two town listers who last year led an effort to raise the Mitchells' property taxes. Patricia Mitchell runs a small animal shelter, the Elizabeth H. Brown Humane Society, on a property adjacent to her hillside home.

Town records indicate that both Mitchells served on the town committee that made the decision to exempt the five-acre property which includes a barn for the animals and a house, from taxation. The same records indicate that only Walter Mitchell recused himself during the vote. In a recent interview, Patricia Mitchell claimed she did, too.

At the end of last year, Stanley and other officials ruled that the Mitchells' adult son, Walter Mitchell Jr. and his family were living in the home, and that therefore it should not be exempt from taxes. The change would cost the Mitchells about $2,000 annually.

WE'RE SCREWED UP, BASICALLY.

CAROL EASTER, FORMER VICTORY TOWN CLERK AND TREASURER

The decision ignited a firestorm.

Patricia Mitchell sued the town in Essex Superior Court, seeking to have the exemption reinstated. Without it, she said, she might have to close an operation that currently cares for 23 rabbits, 10 goats, a llama, two mini horses, a donkey, 10 chickens, two horses, two sheep and an alpaca.

Patricia Mitchell argued that their son is a caretaker for the humane society and helps with the animals when she is away. Perhaps undercutting that argument, she also said that he pays her $700 monthly rent, which represents the largest revenue stream for the private animal sanctuary.

Records indicate that Stanley and others sought advice from the Vermont Department of Taxes, which advised that the humane society property should remain exempt. They revoked its exemption anyway.

In interviews, Stanley and her backers called Mitchell a "hoarder" who keeps the animals for herself.

"Don't give me that crap, that he's the caretaker," Stanley said. "She has no more a humane society down there than you or me."

"Everybody is running around, 'Poor Pat Mitchell,' because the town won't help her with her doggy day care," Loomis, 71, said. "They're all her pets. We all know it."

Patricia Mitchell denied that allegation and said that Stanley and others are motivated by jealousy of her hilltop home and 200-acre property.

"Jealousy of anybody who has anything," she explained. "They live in 'shantytown,' that's what they call it." Stanley lives in a trailer.

While the lawsuit is still pending, Patricia Mitchell won a small victory. During recent town elections, her daughter-in-law, Katrina Mitchell, who lives in the contested humane society property, won election to serve as one of the town's listers, alongside Stanley.

The humane society imbroglio was the talk of Victory for weeks, before it was overshadowed by events at town meeting.

'Very Significant Problems'

Nearly 50 of Victory's 62 residents packed into the one-room town hall on March 3. A private accountant, Bonnie Batchelder, rose to speak first. Commissioned by the selectboard to conduct a forensic audit, Batchelder had examined the town's books from 2009 to 2012 and found "very significant problems."

Hundreds of checks, representing well more than $200,000, had been issued by town officials without invoices or written authorization, Batchelder told the crowd. Delinquent tax fees and penalties had been collected from some, but not all, residents. Several tax forms are missing. The town computer had been wiped clean, though auditors were eventually able to retrieve some data.

"There's been tons of information missing," Batchelder said. "It goes on and on. No matter how big or small your town is, that's unacceptable."

Batchelder did not name names, or get into specifics — her final report will be released later this year. Until then, she is in charge of cutting checks on behalf of the town. During her presentation, Batchelder did reserve praise for the town clerk, Easter. She said that Easter had helped to get the town's books into the best shape they had ever been in.

An hour later, Victory residents voted Easter out of office — and Martel in.

In the audience was Essex County State's Attorney Vince Illuzzi, who said he had heard rumors of financial improprieties in Victory and wanted to hear from Batchelder. Illuzzi acknowledged criminal charges were possible. But he said that, given the complex nature of the allegations, he was withholding judgment until the final audit is released.

The veteran politician proved a quick study of the dynamics in Victory.

"There's a lot of animosity between two factions in town, and it's difficult to draw any conclusions," Illuzzi said. "Depending on what group you talk to, you're perceived as being affiliated with one group or the other."

Depending on which side you're on, the preliminary findings from the audit are either proof of deep-seated corruption — by *someone* — or evidence of the latest vendetta designed to make the other side look bad.

In an interview, Walt Neborsky said he expects he and his wife will be targets of the audit. A contractor, Neborsky managed Victory's roads for more than a decade until March 2014, when he got "fed up" with constant hectoring from the Stanley faction. He quit hours before a big snowstorm, forcing the town to scramble to hire a private contractor to clear the roads.

Ruth Neborsky was town clerk and treasurer for 10 years. She

resigned in December 2013 after the same group accused her of moving to neighboring Kirby, making her ineligible to serve. "I verbally beat her up at town meeting," Stanley boasted, taking credit for Ruth Neborsky's departure.

In the interview, Walt Neborsky said he and his wife have done nothing wrong. "It's bogus," he said. "We did so much for the town for free. They're trying to go after everybody. Jealousy, that's what it comes down to: more money, better cars."

Had anything illegal happened, Neborsky said, "I think that would have hit the papers."

Ruth Neborsky sounded the same note. "I will never understand hatred," she said. "I have no doubt that in 10 years I made mistakes. But as far as any willful wrongdoing, absolutely not."

Walter Mitchell, who is a friend of the Neborskys, has challenged the legitimacy of the audit. He and others have also questioned whether the $27,000 expenditure to fund it was properly authorized.

"I wouldn't be upset if they were doing what's right for the town, but they ain't," Mitchell said. "They're doing stuff to satisfy them, not the town. Like this forensic audit ... I think they're spending a lot of money for nothing. I know some records disappeared, but who is to say who did it?"

Others say the audit report will confirm their long-held suspicions.

Sandra Hudson, one of the Mitchells' chief antagonists, welcomed a visitor to her well-kept trailer home on a recent afternoon.

Her cats lounged on the sofa, while a fire burned in the woodstove. Hudson served a soup and a sandwich, laughed easily, and constantly fretted that her tidy home wasn't suitable for guests.

But when she began discussing the audit, her manner abruptly changed. Her eyes bulged, she started to shake and her voice grew loud. The audit, she said, confirmed what her camp had feared for years.

"The town isn't just corrupt, it's utterly corrupt," Hudson, 62, said. "I can't emphasize that enough. Money and power, that's what it's all about."

Democracy Gone Awry

Less than a week after Town Meeting Day, the Victory selectboard convened while the town was still in an uproar about the impending audit. An Essex County sheriff's deputy, who has become well-known to town residents, settled into the back row of folding chairs.

For the first few minutes, Loomis, the chair of the board, and Walter Mitchell took pains to keep their rivalry at bay, and laced their comments with plenty of pleases and thank-yous.

In an interview, Loomis said she tries to speak cautiously, because she has long been suspicious that someone from the Mitchell faction has tapped her telephone. During a selectboard meeting months ago, she said, people were heard discussing details of a town project that she had only shared with one person over the phone.

The crowd sat quietly as the board deliberately went through some procedural matters to start the meeting.

But the tranquility soon evaporated.

PEOPLE IN VICTORY ... DON'T VISIT EACH OTHER, THEY DON'T KIBITZ, THEY DON'T DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT. IT'S VICIOUS.
DONNA BACCHIOCHI

Discussion turned to whether the town should move from town-meeting voice voting to secret "Australian" ballot. The anti-Mitchell side has labeled the lack of ballot voting a major "civil rights issue."

Then someone brought up a controversy from years ago, a long-abandoned plan to build a new town garage. Voices grew more animated.

Finally, the audit was mentioned.

"The town never authorized it," Mitchell said.

"Yes, they did," Loomis said.

"No, they didn't," Mitchell said.

From the audience, Stanley yelled, "It's up to the board" meaning the Victory selectboard.

"I think you should vote for the town instead of your personal interests, that's what I think!" Mitchell said to Loomis.

"This is just bullshit!" Jan Stanley yelled from the back row.

Meanwhile, Walt Neborsky and Easter had gotten into their own spat. He dismissively waved his hand at the 70-year-old woman, telling her to "turn around."

Loomis decided it might be time to end the meeting.

"This is getting to be a little out of control," Loomis said. "I'm going to close it."

"You can close it if you want," Mitchell responded. "I'm going to be here next time."

The parties then clustered into their two camps and, after chatting for a few minutes, filed into their cars and drove off.

Back at his home, Mitchell sat at his kitchen counter and insisted that he always tries to stay above the fray. He only speaks, he said, when it's in the best interests of Victory, where he's lived for more than 30 years.

Asked if he could ever envision a time when the hostilities in town might end, Mitchell paused for a moment, and then looked his questioner straight in the eye.

"Yeah, I do," he said. "When everybody is dead. Including me." ⑦

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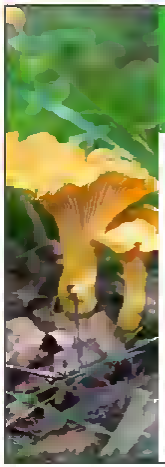


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Capital Cinema

The 15th Green Mountain Film Festival boasts a new director and an international slate

BY ETHAN DE SEIFE



When the Ocean Met the Sky

PHOTO COURTESY OF GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL

The 61 films in the 2015 Green Mountain Film Festival which starts this week in Montpelier, suffice to rank it as the second-largest film festival in Vermont. And those 61 films represent only about 2 percent of those submitted to the GMFF this year. Filmmakers from 92 countries sent in more than 2,400 entries. "It's just incredible," says the festival's executive director, Rachelle Murphy.

Though new to her title, Murphy, 28, is not new to the festival, having volunteered there for years. Last year she held the position of festival coordinator, and she calls her new one "a natural progression." Murphy takes the reins from Terry Youk, who remains on board as president of Focus on Film, the nonprofit organization that oversees the GMFF. (Youk also owns the Savoy Theater, the fest's main venue.)

Newer to the festival than Murphy herself is its method of soliciting submissions, which she was integral in implementing. This year, GMFF bypassed the industry standard submission system at withoutabox.com in favor of an upstart, filmfreeway.com. It was "an experiment," says Murphy, who started using the website to find short films but wound up landing several features, as well. Actively soliciting films online was itself a change for the festival, which in previous years had a greater degree of curation.

Such logistical experimentation, though, can account for only some of the festival's diverse offerings, credit creative programming for the rest. This year, the GMFF will screen films — such as the Oscar nominee *Timbuktu* — from nearly 30 countries, including Uruguay, Brazil, Poland and Mauritania.

Traditional film powerhouses such as France, the Netherlands and the U.S. will also be well represented. Among many others, the GMFF will present Olivier Assayas' *Clouds of Sils Maria*, starring Juliette Binoche and nominated for a 2014 Palme d'Or; Tomm Moore's animated Oscar nominee *Song of the Sea* (his follow-up to *The Secret of Kells*); Céline Sciamma's acclaimed *Girlhood*, about a French girl gang; and Robert Greene's documentary *Actress*. None has yet played in Vermont multiplexes.

For all its emphasis on international programming, the GMFF will also do its home state proud, cinematically speaking. Montpelier native Lukas Huffman will speak to festivalgoers after a screening of his first feature film, the family drama *When the Ocean Met the Sky*. The film is about three brothers whose hippie parents bequeath them an honest-to-goodness treasure map. Huffman describes it as "like *The Goonies* for adults."

A former professional snowboarder, Huffman parlayed a talent for making "ski porn" films into *When the Ocean Met the Sky*, his first full-length fiction feature. "There's not much you can do with [snowboarding films]," he says in a phone conversation with *Seven Days* from his home in Brooklyn. "It's just the riding and the music. After you do that for 10 years, it gets pretty boring." Huffman says a strong "desire to tell stories" — as well as a hunch of slopeside injuries — pushed him into filmmaking that didn't have gnarly powder wipeouts as its *raison d'être*.

While Huffman's film has played — and received audience awards — at several American and Canadian festivals, its screening in Montpelier is something of a homecoming, the director says. "It's very cool to be a part of the Green Mountain Film Festival, which opened me up to edgier types of films when I was young."

IT FELT LIKE THERE WAS THIS WAVE OF POSITIVITY AROUND THE FESTIVAL LAST YEAR, AND WE'RE RIDING THAT INTO THIS YEAR.

ERIC REYNOLDS

Huffman won't be the festival's only guest speaker with a Vermont connection. Also presenting will be renowned comics artist, native Vermonter and Center for Cartoon Studies instructor Steve Bissette; Vermont College of Fine Arts professor Lisa Leeman, whose film *Awake* plays in the festival; and filmmaker Kristina Lear, who curated the Women's Shorts Program. Vermonters made and appear in several other festival films, as well.

The festival will offer a handful of classic films alongside contemporary ones. Alain Resnais' 1961 art film *Last Year at Marienbad* is joined on the program by the semi-obscure 1965 family drama *Those Calloways*, which was set and filmed in Vermont and stars Brian Keith. The jewel of GMFF's vintage films, though, is a restored version of *The Swimmer*, the 1968 cult classic adapted from a John Cheever short story, which stars Burt Lancaster in one of his best performances.

Ten films will make their Vermont premieres at the festival, including *Maps to the Stars*, the latest (and highly

FILM



Jauja



A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night

touted) film from master director David Cronenberg; the internationally produced historical drama *Jauja*, the marvelously titled Scandinavian dark comedy *A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence*; and the offbeat comedy *The Road Within*, whose director, Gren Wells, will attend the festival.

The GMFF does not particularly promote premieres, however, for reasons that have to do with protecting the filmmakers' access to other festivals, Murphy says. To boost their status, many top-tier festivals refuse to show certain films unless they can boast of hosting official premieres, she notes. "We offer that as a way to help [filmmakers] in their journeys."

Murphy and programming coordinator Eric Reynolds are bullish on this year's festival, in part because last year's was a success. Though the fest screens some of its films in small venues, Reynolds says he was nonetheless encouraged to see more shows selling out in 2014 than ever before. "It felt like there was this wave of positivity around the festival last year, and we're riding that into this year," he says.

"We've gotten great feedback about this year's program," Murphy adds. "People are really excited — and toro, because they say there are too many choices. That's always nice to hear."

Film festivals are, as Reynolds puts it, "year-to-year events," meaning they're so dependent on ticket sales that their financial health can be difficult to assess until after they're over. Though he can't provide specific figures, Reynolds describes the GMFF's advance ticket sales this year as "pretty strong."

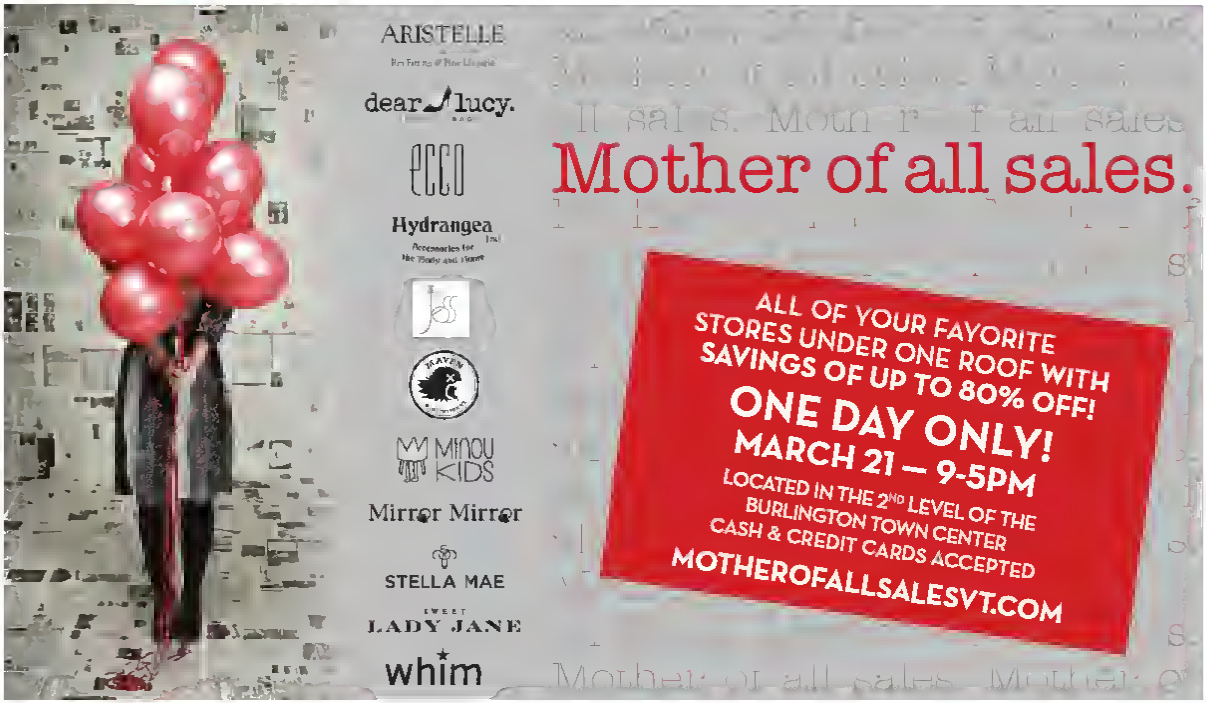
Perusing this year's program, astute cinephiles may notice several titles that have shown in recent months on local screens: *Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter*, *100 Head/Heart/Feet*, and *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*, for example, all played in Burlington in 2014 or early 2015. Neither Reynolds nor Murphy is troubled by this, though. "Many people come to the festival who don't get to Burlington or other art-house theaters," says Reynolds. "And many of these films are come and gone in a week. Montpelier is far enough away that it doesn't really impact our attendance."

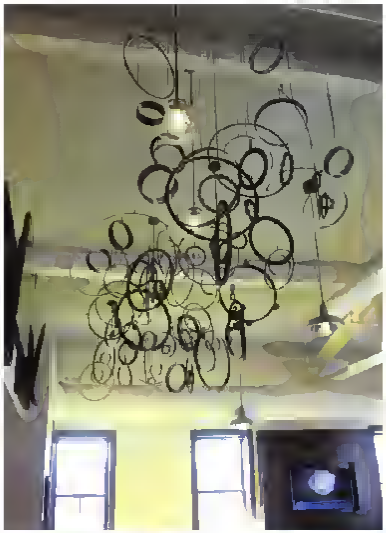
For 10 days this month, audiences need only visit Vermont's capital to take a cinematic trip around the world. ⑦

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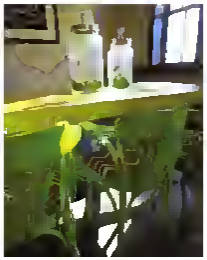
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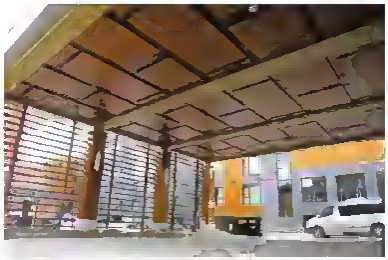
The 18th Green Mountain Film Festival Friday, March 20, to Sunday, March 29, at the Savoy Theater and the Pavilion Auditorium in Montpelier. For showtimes and tickets, see gmffestival.org.



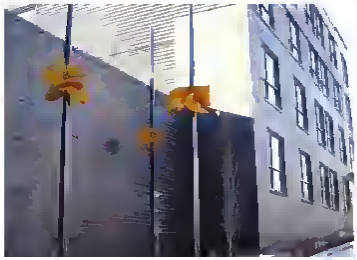












Room at the Inn ... for Art

Burlington's new Hilton Garden Inn puts local creativity on display

STORY BY PAMELA POLSTON · PHOTOS BY MATTHEW THORSEN

DESIGN

Pedestrians who pass by the old armory building on Burlington's Main Street frequently peer into the tall windows and make comments along the lines of "When will it be done?" Seeing nothing through the glass but construction equipment and piles of building materials, they might assume the much-anticipated hotel at 101 Main isn't finished. They would be wrong.

The Hilton Garden Inn opened for business at the end of January. To the left of those windows, a peek around the building's corner reveals the hotel's east-facing entrance, with a covered drop-off area for guests and waiting valets. Beyond that, the Hilton makes a right angle. The perpendicular length swaddled in handsome black brick fills the entire center of the Main-Pine-King-St. Paul city block and offers guests a "back door" across the street from Pizzeria Verita.

The hotel's restaurant-bar, too, is open to guests and the public for breakfast and dinner; the Armory Grille and Bar resides above the unfinished street-side space that many locals of a certain age still fondly remember as "Hunt's." That was the legendary nightclub RW Hunt Mill & Mining Company. By summer's end, its capacious quarters will be the new home of the Vermont Comedy Club — and the repurposed and refurbished armory will, at last, look "done."

Meantime, Erik Hoekstra is pleased to show a reporter around the brand-new and fully functional hotel. As the project's manager and co-owner of the Hilton franchise — with his Redstone partner, Larry Williams; Doug Nedde of Nedde Real Estate; and a group of private local investors — he's both proud and relieved to see it finally open. (Redstone began planning the urban development in 2001; Hoekstra came on board in 2006.) And Hoekstra, 37, is quick to point out that, for all the hotel's amenities, its biggest attraction is its downtown location.

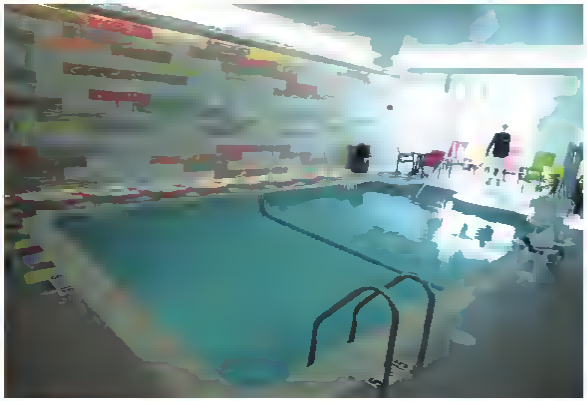
Many travelers, Hoekstra says, have begun passing up bland airport hotels in favor of walkable urban locations that offer a variety of restaurants, shops, galleries and bars, all bringing opportunities to experience local color. Downtown Burlington certainly offers all those — and then there's that lovely lake just down the street.

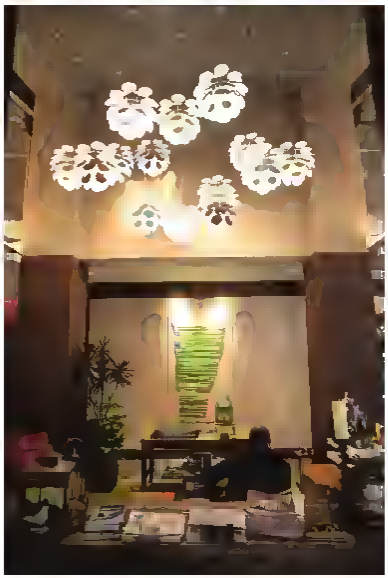
The second floor of the 1904 red-brick armory now consists of a sleek, contemporary lobby, flanked on one side by the high-ceilinged restaurant — flooded with natural light during the day — and on the other by a check-in desk. Anyone who visited the offices that once

HILTON GARDEN INN AT A GLANCE

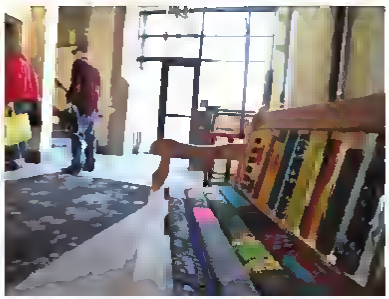
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Fitness center













occupied this space, particularly after a 2003 fire in the building, will be astonished by the transformation.

The decor is the handiwork of Boston-based design firm Group One Partners, and it's hipper than you'd expect from a mainstream chain hotel. Dark woods contrast with colorful accents such as bright-blue leather chairs, distressed-leather settees with chic pillows, corrugated-metal sliding doors and tall orange barstools.

Hoekstra notes that, while the Garden Inn franchise requires a nature theme and comes with a hotel prototype, this project is anything but standard issue. "We're in a downtown urban location in a historic building," he says. "We *can't* build a prototype — not that we wanted to."

In fact, Hoekstra seems proudest of the *local* contributions to the Garden Inn. Local art, that is.

Conant Metal & Light fabricated the lighting above the bar. Five clear-glass light globes hang suspended among dozens of metal hoops of various sizes, one imagines counting them under the pleasant influence of, say, a Burlington Mule. Conant also provided the clever light installation in a back hallway. It's a collection of vintage flashlights that hang from the ceiling, pointed at the floor.

While lighting by the repurposing geniuses at Conant is practically de rigueur in local restaurants, Vermont artworks turn up all over this hotel. Hoekstra worked with Burlington City Arts to place dozens of pieces of art by local artists, with something in nearly every room. Original monoprints and giclée prints by Casey Blanchard easily uphold the "nature" theme; so do large-scale collage-paintings of red poppies by Johanne Durocher Yordan. Other artists represented include painters Carolyn Enz Hack and Cameron Schmitz, and photographers Carl Rubino, Krista Cheney and Jeff Schneiderman.

Guests may be surprised to find artwork gracing even the nondescript luggage carts and a bench by the hotel's front door. That would be colorful "yarn bombing" by Erinn Simon. Inside the hotel, too, the fiber artist has created a Vermont-shaped installation of yarn — in green, of course.

Last month, sculptor R. Elliott Katz completed his installation of "Mushroom Grove," a pair of tall, organic-looking sculptures outside the hotel's St. Paul Street door. Later this spring, Hoekstra says, Katz will contribute 'Brightly Colored Trees" — tree trunks painted fire-engine red, sans branches — along the Main Street entrance.

' The art project will evolve over time," Hoekstra says. He adds, "What we spent to put Vermont-based art in every room was only slightly more than stock 'hotel art.'"

Hoekstra and Williams, who also developed the Old North End building that houses apartments and the restaurant Butch + Babe's, are looking toward new projects, including an apartment building across the street from Pearl Street Beverage, and student housing at the University of Vermont. But what really excites him, Hoekstra says, is "adaptive reuse of historic buildings and urban in-fill."

"I could make more money elsewhere, but we prefer this," he says. "What keeps us going is, every day is different." ⑦

INFO

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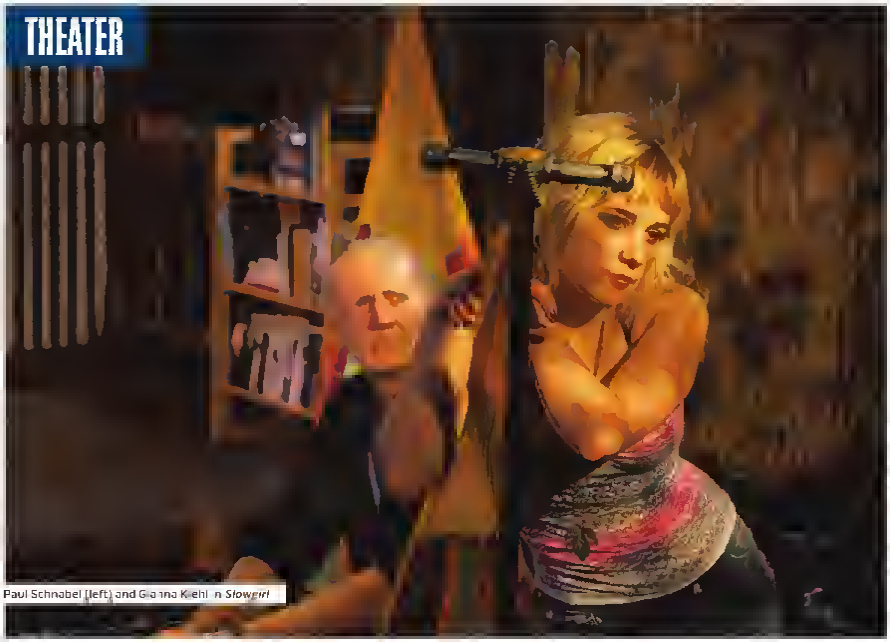
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Paul Schnabel (left) and Gianna Kiehl in *Slowgirl*

Trouble in Paradise

Slowgirl, Vermont Stage Company

BY ALEX BROWN

It takes courage and craft to bring a character to life onstage and draw the audience inside her hopes and fears. To see a high school senior do this is especially riveting, and that is what awaits you at Vermont Stage Company's production of *Slowgirl*, written by Shelburne native Greg Pierce. The intriguing 90-minute play, which premiered at New York City's Lincoln Center in 2012, is receiving its Vermont debut under the direction of Robin Fawcett — Pierce's drama teacher in high school.

Gianna Kiehl, a senior at the Lake Champlain Waldorf School in Shelburne, is a ray of light in a lively, demanding role. Paul Schnabel, a Burlington-based theater veteran who cofounded the Off Center for the Dramatic Arts, offers a subtle performance to complement her.

The two-character one-act covers 17-year-old Becky's visit to her Uncle Sterling's modest house in Costa Rica. They adjust to each other over six days — after an eight-year interval since their last meeting — and reveal what brought them to this isolated spot at the edge of a jungle.

After his law partner was found guilty of embezzlement, Sterling left his legal practice, and his wife divorced him. Though Sterling was never implicated in the law firm's scandal, questions about his possible involvement haunt him, and his family. He now lives as a reclusive expat, spending his days silently reading while the jungle around him chirps and clatters with life.

Becky is visiting to gain distance from a tragedy that happened at a party she attended. Some kids had invited a developmentally disabled girl, who got drunk on Jell-O shots and fell out of a second-floor window. Marybeth, tagged with the nasty nickname "Slowgirl," is now in a coma.

Pierce's artful script unveils these facts slowly. With a masterful ear for speech, he writes dialogue of lyrical naturalism, and makes it so authentic that exposition has no place. Instead of sneaking in explanations and background, Pierce has his characters converse as if they know what they know; it's up to the audience to piece together their histories. The story's disclosures are so gradual as to have fierce, dramatic effect.

The play's construction creates suspense, yet the real tension is not about story but character. Becky's conversational throttle is fully open, but if she's quick to talk about sex, drinking, her popularity and a pile of other preoccupations, she's also careful to withhold. It's hard to tell if shame, confusion or prevarication makes her bury details about the party. What's clear to the audience is that this sympathetic character is too young to have foreseen the consequences of her actions, she may feel guilt, but her immaturity confers innocence, too.

In Uncle Sterling she finds the perfect listener. And he finds, at last, someone to stir up his regrets so keenly that he can see a bit of hope lying beyond

them. Every day, Sterling silently walks the path of a labyrinth he built on a hilltop. As he tells Becky, monks say a labyrinth can be walked as a journey, or in penance. Pierce's theme is nestled in that choice between discovery and atonement.

Fawcett elicits nuanced performances from Kiehl and Schnabel and keeps the action unforced, without dramatic affectations. She brings an intelligent sense of rhythm to the piece, letting the actors take the time they need to hesitate or lurch forward as they excavate each other's sorrows. The easy, artless staging underscores Pierce's low-key naturalism and each line sounds more like it's overheard than crafted for effect.

Fawcett lets the play's humor establish nice connections for the characters. Becky is a motormouth, and what she blurts out is sometimes unintentionally funny — and invariably endearing. She also knows how to joke to puncture Sterling's reserve, and the direction lets these small jabs glitter as each actor listens and reacts.

PIERCE CAPTURES THE WILD, DISCURSIVE, BOASTFUL AND BASHFUL VOICE OF A TEENAGE GIRL, AND GIANNA KIEHL BRINGS BECKY TO LIFE.

Pierce captures the wild, discursive, boastful and bashful voice of a teenage girl, and Kiehl brings Becky to life. Her physical and vocal freedom show from the moment she enters to awaken Sterling, dozing in his hammock. Kiehl gives Becky the thoughtless swagger of a preoccupied teen, and then adds the tentative, troubled gestures that show how hard she's working to appear sophisticated.

Schnabel anchors his performance in Sterling's quiet avoidance, speaking with halting softness and standing with shoulders drooping. He remains guarded about his inner pain and doesn't let Becky's nonstop chatter disrupt the peace he's made with his past. He listens with unbounded intensity. Schnabel's low vocal volume could be challenging for audience members seated at a distance, but his intimate tone suits the role.

Blair Mielnik's set is beautifully detailed. On a platform upstage stands Sterling's house, its reed walls providing more texture than structure, with hints of a corrugated tin roof above. The mildly scruffy furnishings and the Tibetan prayer flag hanging in the kitchen show Sterling's hippie-practical lifestyle. The labyrinth, executed in white stone and dark gravel, is wonderfully realized.

The lighting by Jeffrey E. Salzberg transforms the compact space. Mielnik cleverly fits the labyrinth, which is supposed to be some distance away, right around the house, and Salzberg's lighting successfully differentiates it. The wide palette of lighting effects runs from dark jungle mystery to hot confrontation, always deepening the mood.

Catherine Vigne's costume design hits the conflicting notes of a contemporary teenager's apparel. Becky's tight, skimpy clothes expose both her sexual ripeness and a body so young it's still striving to look mature. The contrasts are everywhere: Her jangled necklaces are both deeply valued talismans and items on casual display. Sterling's sloppy shirts and casual pants suggest a man who's given up on appearances.

In an affecting performance, Kiehl shows Becky teetering between innocence and experience. She didn't anticipate the consequences, or understand the cruelty, of letting a girl with disabilities make bad choices, she knows even less how to accept or reject this truth about herself. How do you atone for a mistake made before you know what it means to make a mistake so big?

Sterling offers only understanding. Becky has to learn that understanding, and a little love, are all the comfort the world holds. ⑦

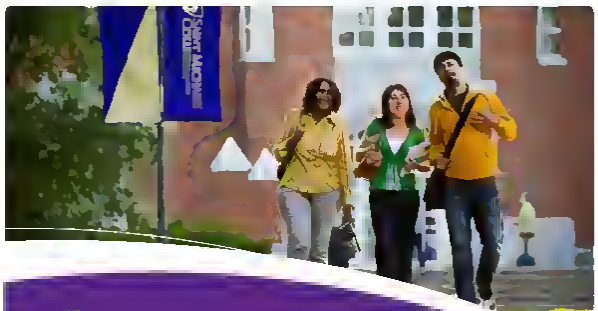
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INFO

Slowgirl, by Greg Pierce, directed by Robin Fawcett, produced by Vermont Stage Company. Through March 29: Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays at 2 p.m., at FlynnSpace in Burlington. $28-$37.50; flynntix.org; vtstage.org.

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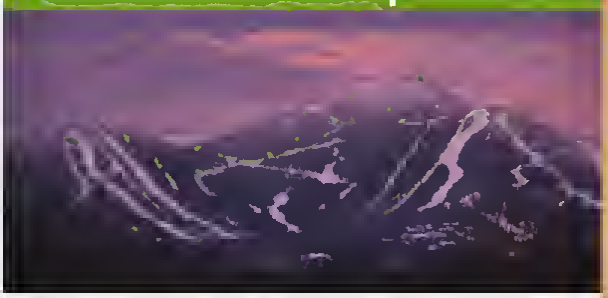
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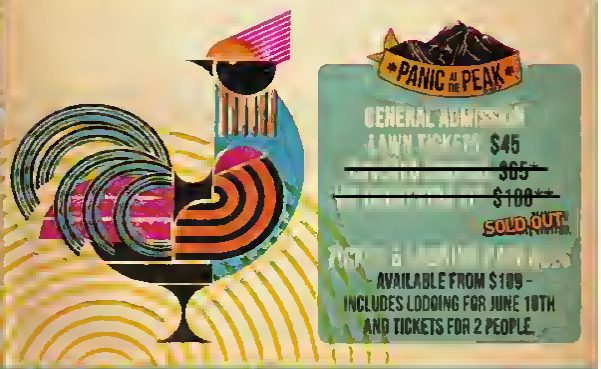
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Imagining Orwell

Theater review: *Orwell in America*, Northern Stage

BY MEG BRAZILL



Allison Jean White (left) and Jamie Horton in *Orwell in America*

It's rare for a Vermont theater company to produce a world premiere by a major American playwright, but Northern Stage defies the odds. The company's aspirations to find and develop new work come full circle in *Orwell in America* by Joe Sutton. Part of Northern Stage's first "New Works Now" play-reading festival in 2014, it's the first of those plays to receive a full production.

Most people who've been through an American high school know the name of George Orwell (1903-50), the English novelist, essayist, journalist and critic who championed social justice and opposed totalitarianism. The *Times* of London ranked him second in a list of the "50 greatest British writers since 1945." His two most famous novels, *Animal Farm* and *1984*, are still widely taught in American schools nearly 70 years after their first publication.

Yet Sutton's play shows new sides of the writer — in part by imagining a trip he never took.

"A play about a historical character is only relevant if it's timely, if it has something to say to us," says Peter Hackett, director of *Orwell in America*, in a phone interview. "What attracted me is that the themes and the politics [of Sutton's play] are unbelievably contemporary."

For his part, Sutton says in a phone interview that he read Orwell in school, but when he returned to the author in the middle of his own career, he found himself struck by the power of Orwell's ideas and intellect. "We use that descriptive word Orwellian,'" the playwright says. "Everybody appropriates that word for their own use."

Indeed, "Orwellian" is part of our vernacular, brandished by commentators on either end of the political spectrum. But what do we know about Orwell himself? According to Sutton, even "avid readers who know his two great books don't know much about him — like the fact that he died at age 47."

Sutton saw this as a great opportunity, he goes on. "We don't have a fixed idea about Orwell" as we do about other literary giants such as Ernest Hemingway or Norman Mailer, he points out. "People don't have predetermined views about him." The playwright recognized that this lack of preconceptions would give him the freedom to present Orwell's ideas through the medium of a fictional construct. In reality, Orwell never set foot in the U.S.

Set in small-town America just after World War II, the play follows Orwell (Jamie Horton) on a book tour for his dystopian novella *Animal Farm*. His publisher sends with him a smart, attractive young woman named Carlotta (Allison Jean White). Ostensibly, she's there to guide Orwell from hotels to speaking engagements and from one town to another. But her real task, at the behest of the publisher, is to dissuade the author from articulating his socialist views to American audiences, who conflate his democratic socialism with communism. Carlotta's considerable persuasive powers have Orwell enthralled.

While its events are invented rather than historical, the play serves as an exploration of ideas in an intimate context. Sutton's plays always reference politics, and *Orwell* is no exception, but here the relationship between Orwell and Carlotta drives the drama. Sutton's thorough research and masterful dialogue illuminate his work's relevance to contemporary politics, where socialism is still misunderstood and misrepresented.

What audience members may not know about Orwell they begin to discover when he introduces himself as Eric Arthur Blair — the writer's real name. When Orwell first steps on stage, he is addressing the audience on the first stop of his book tour. Horton seems to be breaking the fourth wall until we realize that Orwell is speaking to a fictitious audience that sits in our place. Sutton then moves the action from the public arena (book-tour appearance) to a private one (the hotel) where Blair/Orwell and Carlotta can review his performance and the audience's reaction.

THEIR REPARTEE RANGES FROM COMBATIVE TO FRIENDLY, WITH AN UNDERCURRENT OF SEXUAL TENSION THAT ORWELL ACKNOWLEDGES IMMEDIATELY.

"I've added a huge wrinkle in this [play], in that time and place are dealt with rather cinematically," Sutton says. "[The characters] go back and forth between public places like a VFW hall and the privacy of a hotel room, and it has to be very clear how they're moving through time in this two-week book tour."

Director Hackett helps make those transitions seamless, and they sometimes occur rapid-fire, always unannounced, even in mid-sentence. Lighting designer Stuart Duke adroitly ushers in pools of illumination that subtly define the distinct locations.

On the tour, Orwell's public persona grows confident, even overblown, as he delivers his talks. Meanwhile, the private conversations between him and Carlotta grow increasingly intimate as she tries to understand this enigmatic man — and to convince him to listen to her. Their repartee ranges from combative to friendly, with an undercurrent of sexual tension that Orwell acknowledges immediately. Carlotta, by contrast, works to keep him at a professional distance. For these two weeks, each is all the other has.

Caite Hevner Kemp's elegant, restrained scenic design gives us a view of a double bed through French doors in Orwell's hotel suite. Technically, the set piece is unnecessary, but emotionally it's fraught with possibility. Kemp's use of a curved red couch at center stage also creates possibilities — of a bridge or a divide — which Hackett fully explores with his versatile staging.

The period costumes by Amy Sutton reinforce the dynamics beautifully, particularly in Act II, when Carlotta's red tailored suit dominates. Ben Montmagny's sound design gives voice to the fictional audience.

The ensemble work of Horton and White in the lead roles is riveting. Their fast-paced verbal pas de deux is supported by nuanced gestures. Blocking reveals character when Carlotta underlines points with her hands as she carefully challenges Orwell's actions and motivations, or when the two move from chair to couch to chair — or, in Orwell's case, to the whiskey bottle and back.

When Horton steps on stage, he inhabits the role of the Eton-educated Orwell, putting the audience solidly in his corner. Restricted by the gender roles and manners of 1940s America, White must work hard to put across her smarts and not just her sexiness, and she succeeds handily.

The small cast also includes Hanover, N.H., seventh grader Trevor Siegel playing a grocery delivery boy who adeptly contends with a brusque Orwell.

Hackett, a professor of theater at Dartmouth College, has worked with Sutton on several previous productions and readings around the country. The latter's plays have been produced throughout the United States and in London, and he currently teaches playwriting at Dartmouth. With *Orwell in America*, the collaboration of these longtime colleagues gives rise to a polished, intelligent production. ⑦

INFO

Orwell in America by Joe Sutton, directed by Peter Hackett, produced by Northern Stage. Through March 29: Tuesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays March 22 and 29 at 5 p.m.; and Thursdays March 19 and 26 at 2 p.m. at Briggs Opera House in White River Junction. $15-55. Info and reservations: 296-7000; northernstage.org.

Roughly Rustic

Taste Test: Junior's Rustico, Burlington

BY HANNAH PALMER EGAN

The day had been long, cloudy and cold and involved too much driving. As I exited the highway onto Shelburne Road in Burlington, a gray dusk fell over the salt-sodden road and filthy snowbanks. All I could think about was a belly-warming bowl of spaghetti and meatballs. Conveniently, Junior's Rustico was on the way home; I'd been planning to review it, but hadn't yet been in. Imagining a heaping whorl of pasta swaddled in savory red sauce and fluffy meatballs dusted in Parmesan, I asked my husband to stop.

We ordered takeout. By the time we made it the eight tenths of a mile from the restaurant to our house, our pizza was cool and brittle, its crust like cardboard. OK, we agreed, these pizzas don't travel well. Good to know.

But when I cracked open my $15 linguine and meatballs, I was stunned to find a modest portion of box pasta — not the handmade stuff the restaurant promised in interviews prior to opening — lubricated with a scant ladleful of forgettable marinara. The two meatballs were about the size and density of golf balls, and had about as much charm.

Wow, I thought. *We are not in Brooklyn anymore.*

Before I'm crucified for holding Vermont food to New York expectations, let's remember that Junior's owner Franke Salese Jr. grew up in a New York restaurant family and opened the original Junior's on Long Island in 1982. So I had reason to hope for something resembling the downstate pasta-and-meatball standard — which, for the record, means tangled mountains of pasta served with a pint of sauce and three or four fist-size, juicy meatballs. For about $9.

But the new restaurant, which opened on Shelburne Road last November, doesn't aim to be a New York-style red-sauce joint, even if the pizza boxes advertise "the original pizza from Long Island." That's just marketing carried over from other Junior's outposts in Colchester and downtown Burlington.



Linguini with clams and Cubana sandwich

MATT THORSEN

Over the weeks that followed, I returned for a series of sit-down meals.

A lot of work went into transforming the space — which used to house a KFC — into the latest garrison in the Salese empire. Brick walls give it a sexy, old-world vibe, but the interior still feels a bit value-engineered and anonymous, lacking in homey charm.

Muted TVs screen sports for folks who pop in for a quick meal at the gorgeous black walnut bar, while 16 draft lines offer local, domestic and imported beers.

The wine list includes sips from Vermont's Boyden Valley Winery, but otherwise skews affordable and predictable. Wine drinkers can expect generous pours of Spanish and Italian reds and a few bold West Coast vintages. For whites, there's plenty of pinot grigio and chardonnay.

Bar manager Chris Leighton formulates the cocktails, and the ones I tried were decent. The L Train was a cool, cloudy blend of citrus and lavender, with its gin a mellow background note. A steaming cup of hot buttered rum smacked of a rum toddy.

Salese conceived the menu with help from his Costa Rican wife, Evelyn, and the bill of fare blends ideas of Spanish-style tapas and pastoral Italian cuisine. It's on trend (small plates, peasant food) and sounds good, but the dual focus doesn't quite jive in practice.

Also, the "tapas" aren't tapas in any usual sense of the word. Instead, the menu offers a few Italian plates, such as bruschetta and mussels in white wine broth, and several Latin-ish spins

ROUGHLY RUSTIC » P 46

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SIDEdishes

BY HANNAH PALMER EGAN & ALICE LEVITT

Frost on the Glass

NEW HINESBURG BREWERY OPENS

Beer has been flowing at FROST BEER WORKS at 171 Commerce Street in Hinesburg for a few weeks now. Last weekend, owner GARIN FROST held a hush-hush pint night for friends, family and brewery drop-ins, but this Saturday, he says, he'll invite the public in for a taste.

Frost has been home-brewing for years on what he calls a "fairly substantial commercial pilot brewery" in his basement, but he says the idea of opening a brewery kept nagging at him. When he sold his Hinesburg business, Vermont Print and Mail, to nearby Minuteman Press, he held on to the real estate. "I always thought this would be a great place for a brewery," Frost says. As more and more businesses opened in town, the idea started to seem too prescient for him not to give it a shot.



JEFF KAUFMAN

In the past several months, Frost has installed a seven-barrel brewhouse in the space, along with eight fermenters and bright tanks, a bottling line and a tasting bar. More recently, he hired his first employee, brewer MIKE LIESER, who joins the company as an alumnus of the master brewing program at the University of California, Davis, and stints at Colorado's Avery Brewing and Oskar Blues Brewery. Lieser will help with brewing and general operations, since Frost plans to keep his nine-to-five gig for the foreseeable future.

Frost says he'll self-distribute the beer, making it available at the brewery in growlers and kegs, and at retailers in 22-ounce bottles. Look for those bottles in stores in the next month or so.

Until then, those interested in sampling the new brew will have to schlep to the brewery, which is open all day on Saturdays and Sundays. This weekend, Frost plans to offer four beers, including a Cascade single-hop pale ale, an IPA and two double IPAs, each brewed differently using some combination of Citra, Simcoe and Cascade hops.

Of his initial lineup, the brewer says he initially planned to focus on German-style beers. "I didn't want to be pressured into brewing the kind of beers that I didn't drink," Frost explains. But then "I started to take a liking to IPAs," he says, "So I started making IPAs." For now, Frost says, he's deliberately limiting his palette to a few different hop varieties and malt profiles, exploring materials he's familiar with so he can ensure the results he seeks. "All of my ales are similar in terms of the grains and hops," he says.

Frost Beer Works will be open on Saturday and Sunday, March 21 and 22, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. For updates on the Saturday event, check the brewery's Facebook page.

—H.P.E.

CONNECT

Follow us on Twitter for the latest food gossip! **Alice Levitt** @aliceants and **Hannah Palmer Egan** @findthathannah

Taverna Time

GREEK CUISINE COMES TO SHELBURNE

The space that housed French restaurant Café Shelburne from 1969 to the final night of 2014 now bears little resemblance to its former self. The carpets have been replaced with wood floors. Lamps from Conant Metal & Light illuminate the ocean-blue walls. When TAVERNA KHIONE opens in early April, refurbished wood tables will give the dining room a rustic Greek feel.

Yes, Greek. Since early February, chef-owner MARC PROVENCHER — who recently sold his Greek and Italian restaurants in Maine to his former business partner — has been hard at work inside 5573 Shelburne Road, preparing to launch what may well be Vermont's first traditional Greek spot.



COURTESY OF TAVERNA KHIONE

Wine and goat

Diners shouldn't expect the street foods, such as gyros or souvlaki, that typify American Greek fare. Instead, they can plan on supping on ultra-seasonal dishes. "If people are coming in here looking for moussaka, they're not going to get it,' says Provencher. "I'm sure there will be customers who want Greek salad. You're not going to see that until August when tomatoes are in season."

Except for a few basic dips such as tzatziki and skordalia, the menu will undergo a complete transformation every four weeks. "The traditional Greek, Mediterranean way is to do seasonal and local and not preach about it," Provencher explains.

Besides a bar stocked with 30 Greek wines, draft beers and spirits such as ouzo, the only major component of that menu not made in Vermont will be the seafood. Provencher plans to serve whole grilled fish, fish stews, octopus and sardines. Calamari will be grilled, then braised for optimal tenderness.

The chef expects Vermonters to be unfamiliar with much of his resolutely Greek menu, in which lamb, goat and rabbit will take places of honor. "Whether it's lamb chops or leg or a stew made out of lamb necks, we'll use every cut of lamb," says Provencher, adding that liver, heart and kidneys will also feature in traditional dishes. On April 12, he'll spit-roast an entire lamb for Greek Easter.

Throughout the year, Provencher plans to spit-roast goats and hold wine dinners to educate oenophiles in the pleasures of the restaurant's Greek vintages. Most have never been served before in Vermont, he says.

The taverna is named for the nymph Khione, the Greek goddess of snow, but the frost will doubtless be giving way by the time it opens its doors. All the better to tempt guests with seasonal foods as they emerge from the long chill.

—A.L.

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PHOTOS: MATTHEW THORSEN

Roughly Rustic «P44

on American pub fare — wings, fried mozzarella, jalapeño poppers, nachos. I don't mean to sound closed-minded, but I can't order nachos at a "rustic Italian" tapas joint. I just can't.

But I'm a sucker for wings, and Rustico's big, brawny flappers came dry rubbed and bare, with buffalo and bleu-cheese dipping sauces on the side. The wings were good — and amply portioned — but were neither tapas nor rustic Italian.

Another night, arancini — deep-fried risotto balls stuffed with mushrooms — tasted mostly just fried and were pointlessly shrouded in rubbery melted mozzarella. My table ordered the grilled sausages with peppers and onions, but was stymied when the sausages arrived charred. The links might have been worthwhile if a careless cook had not incinerated the life out of them. And why they came scattered with yellow corn chips remains a mystery.

Soft slices of Junior's Bakery bread heaped with saucy stewed barbecue beef again cloaked in translucent, flaccid mozzarella, were marginally better. The dish made a satisfying starter at the time, but I doubt I'd order it again.

On the positive side: An heirloom tomato salad, ordered from the specials list, came on a wooden paddle in a beautiful, if puzzling presentation. (*Should we eat the salad off the paddle? Maybe not. Shuffle some onto a plate? Yes.*) Beyond that, the red and yellow cherry tomatoes were piquant and bright, the arugula firm and spicy, and the dobs of goat cheese pungent and gamey. Lightly dressed in Champagne vinaigrette, the salad was the kind of fresh (albeit shipped from somewhere — none of that produce is in season here now), no-frills cooking that hails from the hills of Tuscany.


Evelyn Salese

A basil-strewn Margherita pizza was perfect in its simplicity. Piping hot from the oven and riddled with juicy San Marzano tomatoes and bubbling mozzarella, it was almost whispering of the motherland.

And, while the toppings on a Vesuvius pizza — prosciutto, roasted red peppers, arugula, mozzarella and olive oil — melted and mingled, something fell a little flat. The pie was pleasant but too bland to be marriage material.

Still, a pie might be the best entrée. A bowl of winter rigatoni, commingled with bitter kale, sweet butternut squash and parsnip, offered an amenable combination of salty and sweet, but it lacked a sauce to tie things together. An aggressively creamy carbonara tasted


Cubano sandwich

like pancetta-laced Alfredo with peas, the flabby, over-sauced dish bore scant resemblance to Italy's elegant pork-and-egg pasta.

It's worth noting that all of the pasta is available gluten-free, it's springy, slightly nutty and nearly indiscernible from the semolina version. Pizzas, too, can be had on celiac-friendly crusts.

During lunch, Rustico offers sandwiches. For me, a melty Cuban made a great midday meal. The juicy pickles were pleasantly warmed by the ham and tender pork — all of which was embraced by griddled focaccia. But my companion's Italian beef with giardiniera was a disaster. The meat was bland and barely seasoned, and the insipid, watery jus provided for dipping did nothing to save it. At least the hand-cut fries were good: skins on, amply salted, crisp and spuddy.

I'd be remiss not to mention Rustico's service. As critics go, I'm pretty sympathetic. I've spent much of my adult life working in restaurants — from grimy pubs to Michelin-starred fine-dining places. I know what good service looks and feels like. I also know that it can take years to fully develop, so I tend to allow inexperienced waitstaff transgressions aplenty. Until those transgressions appear to be so entrenched that the problem is clearly with management — meaning, management hasn't taken the time to train its staff on the basic points of service, or doesn't know or care that they are messing up as much as they are.

Rustico waiters and hosts are unflappably genial and nice. But getting orders right, and properly coursing and timing meals for an entire table seemed mostly beyond them during my visits.

At my first sit-down visit, we waited nearly 15 minutes for drinks in a nearly empty restaurant. Another night, my dinner guest ordered linguine with clams in white sauce; the server brought red sauce instead. My husband asked for chicken and got eggplant parm. I asked our server whether the sausages were made in-house, and she couldn't say.

Those kinds of rookie errors not only irk patrons, they cost the restaurant money.

But let's move on to dessert. The options at Rustico come from Junior's Colchester bakery. The cannoli were crisp and stuffed to order; the cheesy stuffing sang with notes of almond and citrus. Our cheesecake was silky smooth, light and refined. After the generally subpar dinners, I was grateful for a sweet finish.

This review is somewhat of an ode to what might have been. Prior to opening, Salese said he planned to make pastas and a variety of sausages in-house, using organic, local ingredients, and I've heard that the restaurant runs occasional handmade gnocchi specials. But during my visits, the kitchen had swapped handmade pasta for dry Barilla noodles and kept the artisanal prices.

Four months into business, Rustico succeeds at providing simple, rustic fare. The cooking is home-style, for sure. It's just too bad that so much of the menu consists of one-note, unimaginative plates that many cooks could make just as well, or better, at home — and for a fraction of the price. ⑦

INFO

Junior's Rustico, 408 Shelburne Road, South Burlington, 861-9999, juniorsrustico.com

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Blind Ambition

Lunch is on at Burlington's Courthouse Café

BY ALICE LEVITT



Heidi Viens' mac and cheese has a piquant pairing of Cabot Seriously Sharp cheddar and mustard with a buttery crouton topping. But if customers at Burlington's Courthouse Cafe want a portion of that popular dish, they'll need to reserve it. The taste of home is at a premium among diners seeking refuge from their business in the same building — the Edward J. Costello Courthouse.

The Courthouse Café is located on Cherry Street, just across from Hen of the Wood, Juniper and Bleu Northeast Seafood. But it isn't the home-style comfort food that separates the tiny eatery from its peers. It's the people creating it.

Viens, 38, is blind. The Essex native lost her vision at age 22 owing to medical complications following a car accident. With the aid of a staff that includes people both visually impaired and fully sighted, Viens has been operating the café and feeding courthouse employees and visitors since October 2014.

The Courthouse Café exists thanks to the federal Randolph-Sheppard Act, passed in 1936, which guarantees blind people the first right of refusal on all vending operations in federal facilities. According to the act, a person with eyesight not better than 20/60, or whose field of vision extends no more than 20 degrees, receives priority when he or she applies to run the cafeterias, snack

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FRED JONES, VERMONT DIVISION FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED



BLIND AMBITION >> P.50



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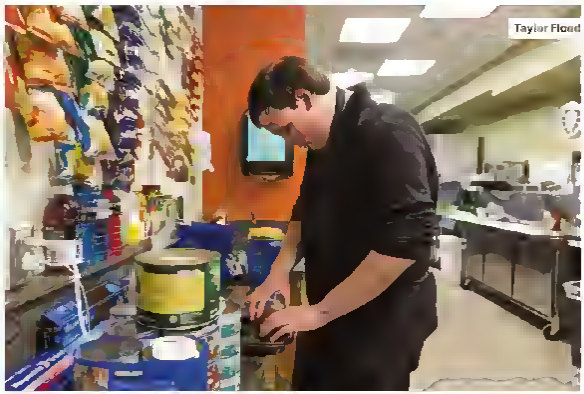
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Blind Ambition «P48

bars and even vending machines in all U.S.-run buildings.

The act doesn't exactly generate a groundswell of opportunity in a state as small as Vermont, where few government buildings can financially support vending machines or a restaurant. The state has only two Randolph-Sheppard cafés, the second, the Overlook Café, is located just up the street from the Courthouse in the Vermont Health Department headquarters. Three other federal buildings have vending machines, including the White River Junction post office and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services offices in St. Albans. According to Fred Jones, director of the Vermont Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired, a new Randolph Sheppard cafe will open early next year in the state offices set to reopen in Waterbury.

Before the Courthouse could open its doors, Jones had to find someone to run it. And Viens thought she might be a good candidate. "I went to a meeting where he was talking about having gotten clearance from the courthouse and looking for an operator," she recalls. "I mulled it over. I have a degree in finance from Champlain College and was having no luck finding a job."

Viens' business background made her the best applicant, Jones said. "She didn't have the food service part of it, but I could see her running a business. I saw potential," he said.

Though Viens originally wanted to work in investment portfolio management, she had a passion for cooking. Now much of her everyday menu — basic sandwiches and other simple dishes — borrows from the year that she spent training at the Overlook Cafe. By contrast, the Courthouse's daily specials tend to be mainstays of Viens' own home cooking. Over the years, Viens has tweaked her family's mac and cheese to suit her tastes. A meal dubbed Heidi's Famous Meatloaf is a take on her boyfriend's recipe.

"I don't want people to get bored," Viens says of her ever-changing bill of

fare. Each Thursday's menu embraces a theme, such as Asian or Mexican entrées. Last week, the café went all-American with chicken pot pie, pulled pork, apple pie and milkshakes.

Any sighted person can attest that cooking without sufficient light is challenging. So how does Viens, who is totally blind, cook a turkey breast for her hot turkey sandwich without watching the skin brown, or find what she needs in the café's refrigerator?

In some cases, there's an app for that. When customers pay cash, Viens scans each bill using a program that reads the money's value to her. If it doesn't read, she knows that the bill is counterfeit. The cash registers and meat thermometers have audio features that speak aloud dollar amounts and temperatures.

But many of Viens' solutions are much lower tech. The café's microwave has Braille buttons, while the oven's dial has its most frequently used temperatures marked in orange puffy paint, much like the kind kids used to decorate T-shirts in the '80s.

Viens memorized the location of each type of drink in her cooler and each snack hanging behind the register. Sighted employees place muffin batters in the refrigerator in alphabetical order, from blueberry to orange-cranberry, so that Viens and cook Taylor Flood, who is vision impaired, can grab a container to bake as needed. To differentiate between similar packages — say, mozzarella cheese from cheddar — Viens closes one with a laundry clip so it feels different to the touch. She uses the same clips to hold together her 4-year old daughter's outfits so she can grab one and know the components will match, she says.

The day *Seven Days* visits the café, Flood is experimenting with a potential special he calls a "pizza sandwich," part of his constant research and development. He began working in the courthouse just before Christmas. "I was wicked excited," Flood says of scoring the job through the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

The kitchen veteran was born with achromatopsia. His eyes are missing the cones that help control long-range vision, color and the ability to see in bright light. "I'm actually kind of lucky in that I don't need too many adaptive technologies in our kitchen," Flood says. "The only problem in our kitchen is the light. I squint, but it doesn't actually affect my vision too much."

In natural light, Flood wears special glasses to see anything more than a wash of white. When chopping food, he uses contrast to create clear outlines: light-colored foods such as onions and garlic on black cutting boards, and darker foods on white boards.

People with vision impairment aren't the only ones benefiting from the café's existence. Take Felicia Pollard, who's working there as part of a six-week experience program with Vermont Works for Women. Like Viens, Pollard can only work when her young daughter is in school. The Courthouse Café is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. — hours that allow for single mothers to work without requiring extra childcare.

Before working at the cafe, Pollard says, she planned to pursue a career in administration, she's since switched her goal to food service. Working at the Courthouse, she's realized that working in the community of a kitchen may be right for her. She's bonded with the team and says the only extra help she needs to offer her blind colleagues is being organized and alerting them when a customer approaches.

Viens takes orders ahead, especially for popular items such as the mac and cheese, and knows dozens of courthouse employees by voice and first name. Those workers know her, too. "She knows I really hate onions," says defense attorney Harley Brown. "I said to her, 'Everybody puts onions in their meatloaf.' And she said, 'Harley, I will make a special meatloaf for you.' So I have my own little meatloaf with no onions."

According to Jones, the beauty of the Randolph Sheppard program is that blind and sighted people interact. "I think it's a great opportunity for a person who's blind to operate a business and grow professionally, and it's a great way to educate the public," he explains. "When the public sees a person who's blind running a business, it takes away a lot of those unknowns of what can a blind person do."

Working at the cafe can also help a blind person realize his or her potential. Jones mentions one former cafe operator who gained so much confidence from the job that she went on to attend college and law school.

For her part, Viens has learned that there's more to life than crunching numbers. "This is a lot more fun," she says, contrasting the cafe experience to her business background. "I'm not stuck behind a desk, I'm not tied to my phone and I don't have to wear nylons every day." What could be better? Perhaps taking a break from courtroom drama for a side of salty, gravy-covered fries? ⑦

Contact: alice@sevendaysvt.com

INFO

Courthouse Cafe, 32 Cherry Street, Burlington, 598-1501









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art

DRAW & SIP Budding Picassos loosen up with a glass of wine, then sketch away under the tutelage of illustrator Evan Chismark. Helen Day Art Center, Stowe. 6:30 p.m. $35–40 for ages 21 and up. Info, 253-8358.

THE PRACTICE SERIES: DRINK & DRAW BURLESQUE. Artists interpret the poses of a live burlesque model in this creative twist on figure drawing. ArtsElliot, Burlington. 6:8 p.m. $18–24. Info, oneartscollective@gmail.com.

business

KELLET MARKETING MEETING Marketing, advertising, communications, social media and design professionals brainstorm ideas for local nonprofits over breakfast. Room 217, Ireland Building, Champlain College, Burlington. 7:45–9 a.m. Free. Info, 865-6495.

community

COMMUNITY DINNER Diners get to know their neighbors at a low-key buffet-style meal organized by the Winooski Coalition. Onion Community Center, Winooski. 5:30 p.m. Free; children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult; transportation available for seniors. Info, 655-4565.

MEET & GREET WITH BROWNELL LIBRARY TRUSTEES Library patrons go beyond the stacks during a fireside Q&A session. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 7:30–9 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6955.

MEN'S GROUP A supportive environment encourages socializing and involvement in senior center activities. Montpelier Senior Activity Center, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info, 223-2518.

PEER SUPPORT CIRCLE. A confidential space allows participants to converse freely without giving advice or solving problems. The Wellness Co-op, Burlington. 5–6 p.m. Free. Info, 777-8602.

VERMONT '70S COMMUNITY FORUM Folks offer input for a multiyear project dedicated to documenting the decade in the state. Elliot D. Pratt Library, Goddard College, Plainfield. 6–8 p.m. Free. Info, 479-6519.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL Area professionals join Anne Mosle of the Aspen Institute, who presents "Building an Intergenerational Cycle for Opportunity: Women Leading the Way." Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 4:30–7 p.m. $100; preregister. Info, 861-7851, ruth.ann@unitedwaycc.org.

crafts

KNITTERS & NEEDLEWORKERS Crafters convene for creative fun. Burnham Memorial Library, Colchester. 6–8 p.m. Free. Info, 264-5660.

dance

AFROLATIN PARTY Dancers ages 18 and up get down to kizomba, kuduro and kompa with OsantosVT. Zen Lounge, Burlington. Lesson 7:15–8:15 p.m.; party 8:15–10 p.m. $5–12; free for party. Info, 227-2572.

environment

"THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING" BOOK CLUB Naomi Klein's examination of the tenuous relationship between capitalism and climate change sparks an environmentally focused discourse. Pickering Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 1–2 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, jeknight@sover.net. Vermont Workers' Center, Burlington. 6–8 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, aprolman@gmail.com.

etc.

TECH HELP WITH CLIF Folks develop skill sets applicable to smartphones, tablets and more. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 1–2 p.m. Free. Info, 878-6955.

film

COMMUNITY CINEMA: MAKERS: WOMEN IN SPACE Trailblazers in the U.S. space program inspire the next generation of female astronauts, engineers and mathematicians in this segment of the PBS series. Fletcher Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 865-7211.

COMMUNITY CINEMA: "THE HOMESTRETCH" Kirsten Kelly and Anne de Mare's documentary follows three homeless teens struggling to overcome the odds and graduate from high school. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 7 p.m. Free. Info, 748-2600.

FREEDOM & UNITY: "THE VERMONT MOVIE, PART 3" Refuge: Reinvent on and Revolution highlights influential figures in the state's history. Bradford Public Library. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 222-4536.

FROG HOLLOW WINTER FILM SERIES Inventor Tim Jenison attempts to uncover the methods of painter Johannes Vermeer in the documentary *Tim's Vermeer*. A discussion with Doug Nap and Val Hird follows. Feldman's Bagels, Burlington, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 863-6458.

food & drink

COFFEE TASTING Sips of Counter Culture Coffee prompt side-by-side comparisons of different regional blends. Maglianero Café, Burlington, noon. Free. Info, 617-331-1276, corey@maglianero.com.

WINE TASTING Newly released reds from the south of France please discerning palates. Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe, 4–6 p.m. $20; preregister. Info, 253-5742.

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COURTESY OF DENNIS MCNEIL

Pitch Perfect

From performing opera and cabaret to gigs with the Blue Man Group and the Grateful Dead, Irish tenor Dennis McNeil is one versatile guy. Blessed with a remarkable vocal range, the award-winning crooner has performed for presidents and royalty and even in professional sports arenas, earning the title of "Star-Spangled Tenor." A highly sought-after performer, McNeil possesses an "unfailing confidence that marks a true Irishman, and with just enough humility to ingratiate himself," according to the website Broadway World. He brings this ideal combination to an evening of swinging standards in "Danny Boy Meets Sinatra," a benefit concert for Christ the King School.

DENNIS MCNEIL
Thursday, March 19, 7 p.m., at Flynn MainStage in Burlington. $40–60. Info, 863-5966, flynntix.org.



COURTESY OF THE KENNEDY CENTER

One Foot in the Past

Founded in 2007 by dancers Vijay Palaparty and Nalini Prakash, the Spilling Ink Project brings classical Indian dance and music to contemporary audiences. With a repertoire that reflects India's artistic, cultural and spiritual roots, the Washington, D.C.–based dancers incorporate a strong element of visual expression into thought-provoking choreography. The result is works such as *Vishala. Expanse*, a duet inspired by the verses of past and present poets and the south India dance traditions of Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi. Together, Palaparty and Prakash channel the Hindu goddesses Lakshmi and Radha alongside Ardhanareeswara, a representation of Lord Shiva and the goddess Parvati as one form.

'VISHALA. EXPANSE'
Sunday, March 22, 4:30 p.m., at UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus, in Burlington. $5–15. Info, 860-9556, uvm.edu.



COURTESY OF CHANDLER CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ALL HANDS ON DECK

Violinist Vassily Primakov last performed at Chandler Music Hall, his fellow pianist Natalia Lavrova was in the audience. This time around, the internationally recognized musicians appear together as the Lavrova/Primakov Duo, delivering a two-for-the-price-of-one concert of solo and collaborative pieces. The Moscow-born musicians are also longtime friends, and it shows onstage. Of their playing, *Fanfare* magazine notes, "Technically and tonally they are so well matched, you wouldn't know who was on first and who was on second." The dynamic duo delights listeners with a program of works by Schubert, Rachmaninoff and Carl Czerny.

LAVROVA/PRIMAKOV DUO
Saturday, March 21, 7:30 p.m., at Chandler Music Hall in Randolph. $10-35. Info, 728-6464, chandler-arts.org.



COURTESY OF THE WHITE RIVER VALLEY PLAYERS

MAR. 20-22 | THEATER

Rumor Has It

When a dinner party kicks off with a wounded host and a missing hostess, guests are in for an evening to remember. Such is the case in Neil Simon's Tony Award-winning farce, *Rumors*. Mayhem is on the menu in this hilarious romp that revolves around the 10th-anniversary celebration of Charles and Myra Brock. With Charles found bleeding and Myra mysteriously absent, the upper-class couple unwittingly stirs up a pot of lies and deceit among those in attendance. The White River Valley Players present this comic gem complete with copious cocktails, kitchen antics and gunshots fired.

'RUMORS'
Friday, March 20, and Saturday, March 21, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 22, 2 p.m., at Rochester High School Auditorium. See website for future dates. $10-12. Info, 767-3854, whiterivervalleyplayers.org.

calendar

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games

TABLETOP GAMING NIGHT Players ages 14 and up test out Settlers of Catan, Dungeons & Dragons, Magic the Gathering, and more. Burnham Memorial Library, Colchester, 5:30–7:45 p.m. Free. Info 264-5660.

health & fitness

FITNESS BOOT CAMP Participants improve strength, agility, endurance, and cardiovascular fitness with interval training. Holley Hall, Bristol, 6:15–7:15 p.m. $10. Info: ginger54@sover.net.

INSIGHT MEDITATION A welcoming environment fosters a deeper understanding of Buddhist principles and practices. Wellspring Mental Health and Wellness Center, Hardwick, 5:30–7 p.m. Free. Info: 472-6684.

PRENATAL YOGA & BARRE. Moms-to-be prepare their bodies for labor and delivery. Prenatal Method Studio, Burlington, 12:15–1:15 & 5–6 p.m. $15. Info: 829-0211.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE BODY Psychologist Robert Kest examines the biopsychological dynamics that shape daily life. Community Room, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 6–7:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info: 223-8000, ext. 202.

R.I.P.P.E.D. Resistance intervals power plyometrics, endurance, and diet define this high-intensity physical fitness program. North End Studio A, Burlington, 6–7 p.m. $10. Info: 316-3243.

TANGOFLOW! Creator Cathy Salmons leads students in a customized blend of Argentine tango, ballet, modern dance, and body awareness. North End Studio A, Burlington, 7 p.m. $15. Info: 345-6587.

kids

"ALL IN THE FAMILY" FILM SERIES Themed movies provide age-appropriate entertainment. Call for details. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 426-3581.

HIGHGATE STORY HOUR. Budding bookworms share read-aloud tales, wiggles, and giggles with Mrs. Liza. Highgate Public Library, 10 a.m. Free. Info: 868-3970.

MEET ROCKIN' RON THE FRIENDLY PIRATE Aargh, matey! Kiddos channel the hooligans of the seas during music games and activities. Buttered Noodles, Williston, 10–10:45 a.m. Free. Info: 764-1810.

MOVING & GROOVING WITH CHRISTINE Two- to 5-year-olds jam out to rock-and-roll and world-beat tunes. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 11–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 865-7216.

MUSIC MAKERS Song-based activities help increase children's vocabulary and phonological awareness. Richmond Free Library, 10–10:30 a.m. Free. Info: 434-3036.

ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING Students in grades 1 through 6 get extra help in reading, math, and science. Burnham Memorial Library, Colchester, 4–8 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 264-5660.

PAJAMA STORY TIME. Tykes cuddle up in PJs for cat-vating tales, cookies, and milk. Burnham Memorial Library, Colchester, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 264-5664.

STORY TIME & PLAYGROUP Engaging narratives pave the way for art, nature, and cooking projects. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, 10–11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 426-3301.

STORY TIME FOR 3- TO 5-YEAR-OLDS Preschoolers stretch the reading skills through activities involving puppets and books. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 10–10:45 a.m. Free. Info, 878-6956.

TODDLER TIME Parents chat over coffee while tots burn off energy in a supervised environment that encourages artistic expression. ONE Arts Center, Burlington, 9 a.m.–noon. $5. Info, oneartscollective@gmail.com.

language

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS. Beginners better their vocabulary. Pickering Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 865-7211.

GERMAN-ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP Community members practice conversing auf Deutsch. Local History Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 865-7211.

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS Students sharpen grammar and conversational skills. Administration Office, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 865-7211.

montréal

"HOSANNA" When a Cleopatra impersonator sheds her costume, she must face her identity and resulting insecurities in this Tableau D'Hote Theatre production. MainLine Theatre, Montreal, 8 p.m. $15–20. Info: 514-845-3378.

music

40TH ARMY BAND Founded in 1807, the iconic group plays traditional patriotic tunes alongside contemporary selections. Gymnasium, St. Albans City School, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 338-3480.

SONG CIRCLE. Singers and musicians congregate for an acoustic session of popular folk favorites. Godnick Adult Center, Rutland, 7:15–8:15 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Info: 775-1182.

seminars

OWNERSHIP SUCCESSION PLANNING SEMINAR Attendees examine four different ways to sell a business and how to navigate challenges posed by each one. National Bank of Middlebury, 9 a.m.–noon. Free; preregister. Info: 338-7448.

sports

PREMIER FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE Experienced players take shots in a competitive game. The Edge Sports & Fitness, Essex, 7–10 p.m. $80; preregister. Info: 355-4588.

WOMEN'S PICKUP BASKETBALL Drive to the hoop! Ladies hit the court for a weekly game. See meetup.com for details. Hunt Middle School, Burlington, 8–10 p.m. Free. Info, carmengeorgevt@gmail.com.



talks

CHERYL CASEY In conjunction with the Saint John's Bible residency at Champlain College, the professor of communication and creative media presents "Decoding the Bible: The Symbolic Power of Illuminated Representation." Miegan Room, Alken Hall, Champlain College, Burlington, 12:30–1:30 p.m. Free. Info: 865-6432.

CURRENT EVENTS CONVERSATION An informal open discussion delves into newsworthy subjects. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 11 a.m. Free. Info: 878-4918.

THE DISH: A SERIES FOR INQUISITIVE EATERS Panelists ponder issues of labor and social justice within Vermont's thriving local food system. ArtsRiot, Burlington, 5 p.m. $5 suggested donation; preregister. Info: ttaylor@citymarket.coop.

FRED WISEMAN. The researcher discusses permaculture of the past in "Wabanaki Agriculture: Theory and Practice." Vermont Heritage Galleries, Barre, 5:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 272-2509.

LUNCH & LEARN: MAKER SPACES IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT An overview of Vermont's emerging maker movement includes ways to better connect it to the tech community and innovative manufacturers. Generator, Burlington, noon–2 p.m. $20; preregister. Info: 735-0840.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING LECTURE Acclaimed author Katherine Paterson considers the role of literature in the age of technology in "Read for Your Life." Aldrich Public Library, Barre, 1:30 p.m. $5; free for OLLI members. Info: 454-8457.

theater

ORWELL IN AMERICA Northern Stage presents Joe Sutton's portrayal of George Orwell in the aftermath of World War II. Briggs Opera House, White River Junction, 10 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. $15–55. Info: 296-7000.

SLOWGIRL After an accident sends a teenager fleeing to her uncle's Costa Rican retreat, the two are forced to confront their pasts in Greg Pierce's drama, interpreted by the Vermont Stage Company FlynnSpace, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $28–60–37.50. Info: 863-5966.

SPRING AWAKENING The journey from adolescence to adulthood propels Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater's Tony Award-winning musical, staged by the Castleton State College Department of Theater Arts. For adults only. Casella Theater, Castleton State College, 7 p.m. $7–12. Info: 468-1119.

"TYPHOON OF TENDEAHESS" Accompanied by guitarist John Gagne, Dennis McSorley delivers a one-man show that traces a life of success to one of darkness and despair. Off Center for the Dramatic Arts, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $15. Info: 657-4189.

words

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP Lit lovers analyze works in-progress penned by Burlington Writers Workshop members. Studio 266, Burlington, 6:30 p.m. Free; preregister at burlingtonwritersworkshop.com. Info: 383-8104.

UNFILTERED "WINE & POETRY" Locally made vino pairs perfectly with verse from Vermont poets. Shelburne Vineyard, 5 p.m. Free. Info: 985-8222.

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agriculture

HONEY TASTING & LEARNING WITH BROOKFIELD BEES A demonstration from the local apiary paves the way for a locavore's hindering complete with farm tours, tasty eats, and kids activities. Green Mountain Girls Farm, Northfield, 4–7 p.m. Prices vary. Info: 276-0767.

TRANSITION TOWN SJON WELTERS From seeds to thriving paddies, the Cabot resident discusses growing rice in central Vermont. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier, 6 p.m. Free. Info: 223-3338.

business

FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MIXER Host Jennifer Neville serves up catered eats at a networking event featuring representatives from the Hull Insurance Agency and the Community National Bank of Enosburg. The 1906 House, Enosburg Falls, 5:30–7:30 p.m. $5–8; preregister. Info: 524-2444, info@fcrccvt.com.

community

PANEL DISCUSSION: GROWING UP IN MARSHFIELD YEARS AGO Reminiscing about days gone by, longtime residents chat about the town's schools, railroads, and other historic happenings. Old Schoolhouse Common, Marshfield, 7 p.m. Free. Info: 454-7767.

dance

DANCING UPHILL 2015 Paul Besaw leads UVM students in a program of new works by faculty and special guests. Mann Hall Gymnasium, UVM Trinity Campus, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. $10. Info: pbesaw@uvm.edu.

etc.

AARP TAX-PREP ASSISTANCE. Tax counselors straighten up financial affairs for low- and middle-income taxpayers, with special attention to those ages 60 and up. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 11:43–2:30 & 3:13 p.m. Free; preregister for a time slot. Info: 876-6935.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Healthy donors give the gift of life. See redcrossblood.org for details. SHAPE Fitness Center, Johnson State College, noon–5 p.m. Free; preregister for a time slot. Info: 800-733-2767.

LIFE, DEATH AND CONTINUUM RETREAT Tibetan Buddhist monk Geshe Sherab leads an in-depth exploration of the concept of no birth and no death. See milarepa.org for details. Milarepa Center, Barnet, 5–9 p.m. $210. Info: 633-4136.

MOUNT MANSFIELD SCALE MODELERS Hobbyists break out the superglue and sweat the small stuff at a miniature construction skill swap. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info: 879-0765.

"MY LIBRARY HAS WHAT?" Visitors get up to speed on digital library resources. Fairfax Community Library, 6–7 p.m. Free; preregister. Info: 849-2420.

fairs & festivals

CASTLETON COLLEGE CAREER & GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR Students seeking employment and education opportunities discover a wide range of options. Spartan Athletic Complex, Castleton State College, 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info: renee.beaupre-white@castleton.edu.

film

CASTLETON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL Movie lovers feast their eyes on a diverse lineup of foreign cinema. See castleton.edu for details. Castleton State College, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Free. Info, michael.talbott@castleton.edu.

UVM FILM SERIES Gene Hackman plays a surveillance expert struggling to reconcile his profession in Francis Ford Coppola's 1974 drama "The Conversation." Billings-Ira Allen Lecture Hall, UVM Burlington; discussion 6 p.m., film 6:30 p.m. Info: 656-4455. Info, $4–10.

food & drink

WINE TASTING: UNDER THE THRALL OF WHITE BURGUNDY Oenophiles sample vintages made with chardonnay grapes grown in the region's famed soils. Dedalus Wine Shop, Burlington, 4–7 p.m. Free. Info: 865-2368.

health & fitness

BEGINNER TAI CHI FOR HEALTH & BALANCE A weekly yang-short-form series works down with a seated breathing meditation. Ghavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington, 7:15–8:45 p.m. $25 per series; preregister. Info: 917-424-7965.

COMMUNITY MINDFULNESS Folks relieve stress and tens on with a 20-minute guided practice led by Andrea O'Connor. Tea and a discussion follow. Winooski Senior Center, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info: 233-1161.

ELIMINATE STRESS CASILY & EFFORTLESSLY Janet and Edwards Smith describe the ways Transcendental Meditation offsets trying situations. Vermont Transcendental Meditation Center, Williston, 7–8:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 523-6248.

FITNESS BOOT CAMP See WED 18. Cornwall Town Hall, 10:30–11:30 a.m. $10. Info: 343-7160.

FORZA, THE SAMURAI SWORD WORKOUT Students sculpt lean muscles and gain mental focus when using wooden replicas of the weapon. North End Studio A, Burlington, 6:30–7:30 p.m. $10. Info: 378-9243.

POSTNATAL CORE Babies are welcome at a class for new moms a medal strengthening glutes, abdominals and the pelvic floor. Prenatal Method Studio, Burlington, 10:30–11:30 a.m. $15. Info: 829-0211.

PRENATAL YOGA & BARRE See WED 18. 12:15–1:15 & 4:30–5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY NIGHT INSPIRATIONS Yogis hit the mat for a gentle to moderate yoga class that incorporates a healing sound meditation. Yam and Yoga, Bristol, 6:15 p.m. Donations. Info: 453-7799.

WINTER INTO SPRING LUNAR SOUND BATH MEDITATION SERIES Weekly immersions in the vibrations of didgeridoos, singing bowls, frame drums, flutes, crystals and more alleviates stress and tension. The Wellness Collective, Burlington, 7–8:30 p.m. $10–15 suggested donation. Info: 540-0186.

kids

JOURNEY FROM SAP TO SYRUP From bucket to boiling, preschoolers follow a droplet of maple sap through the sugaring process. Green Mountain Audubon Center, Huntington. 9:30 a.m. $8-10 per adult/child pair; $4 per additional child. preregister. Info 434-3068.

LEGO CLUB Brightly colored interlocking blocks inspire young minds. Brinnham Memorial Library, Colchester. 4-5 p.m. Free. Info, 264-5660.

MIDDLEBURY PRESCHOOL STORY TIME Little learners master early literacy skills through tales, rhymes and songs. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Free. Info 388-4095.

MUSIC WITH DEREK Kids up to age 5 shake out their sillies to toe tapping tunes. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 10:30 a.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME. Children ages 2 through 5 discover the magic of literature. Cutler Memorial Library, Plainfield. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free. Info 454-8504.

PRINTER'S PARADISE: A FAMILY WORKSHOP An interactive tour of the museum's gallery gets kids ages 6 through 12 and their caregivers excited for a printmaking activity. Plattsburgh State Art Museum, N.Y. 2:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Info, 518-564-2498.

READ TO A DOG Lit lovers take advantage of quality time with a friendly, fuzzy therapy pooch. Fairfax Community Library. 3:15-4:15 p.m. Free. preregister for a time slot. Info 849-2420.

READ TO VAN GOGH THE EAT Lit lovers share stories with the registered therapy feline, Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. preregister for a 10-minute time slot. Info, 878-4918.

YOGA WITH DANIELLE. Toddlers and preschoolers strike a pose, then share stories and songs. Buttered Noodles, Williston. 10 a.m. Free. Info 764-1810.

language

MANDARIN CHINESE CLASS Linguistics lovers practice the dialect spoken throughout northern and southwestern China. Agape Community Church, South Burlington. 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Info, 503-2037.

lgbtq

WHEN THE GAYS MOVE INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD. Lyndon State College president Joe Bertolino and his longtime partner Bill Leibold bring a lighthearted approach to matters of diversity, tolerance and higher education. Alexander Twilight Theatre, Lyndon State College, Lyndonville. 7 p.m. Free. Info 626-6419.

montréal

HOSANNA See WED 18.

music

DAVE STRYKER & THE UVM BIG BAND The master jazz guitarist joins UVM musicians for a spirited show. UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $15; free for students with ID. Info 863-5966.

DENNIS MCNEIL. The award-winning Irish tenor lends his voice to an evening of swinging standards in "Danny Boy Meets Sinatra." Proceeds benefit Christ the King School. See calendar spotlight. Flynn MainStage, Burlington. 7 p.m. $40-60. Info 863-5966.

LENTEN NOON CONCERT SERIES. Music lovers convene for a midday performance. Middlebury St. Stephen's on the Green Episcopal Church. 12:15 p.m. Free. Info 388-7200.

seminars

COOKING BASICS: ESSENTIAL KNIFE SKILLS Greg Gasson of Alternative Roots Wellness helps foodies slice, dice, chop and mince their way through preparations for black bean soup with guacamole. McClure Multigenerational Center, Burlington. 5:30-7:30 p.m. $5-10. preregister. limited space. Info 861-9700.

FINDING YOUR HOME A hands-on workshop with Fearn Lickfeld of the Green Mountain School of Druidry helps participants clarify their vision for a dream home and its land. Community Room, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier. 5:30-7:30 p.m. $5-7. preregister. Info, 223-6000 ext. 202.

talks

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP Readers engage in a weekly study of Karen Armstrong's *Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life*. North Branch Cafe, Montpelier. noon-1 p.m. Free. Info, 552-8105.

LUNCH & LEARN Amanda Levinson lends her tech smarts to "Navigating the Digital World." Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington. noon. Free. Info 863-4214.

M.A.G.I.C.: MASCULINITY AND GEROEA IDENTITY CONVERSATION Open sharing encourages attendees to find common ground. The Wellness Co-op, Burlington. 2-3 p.m. Free. Info 888-492-5218.

PANEL DISCUSSION Is Amateurism Dead and Professionalism Inevitable? Envision the Future of College Sports" sparks a dialogue among panelists. Chase Community Center, Vermont Law School, South Royalton. 12:45-2 p.m. Free. Info, 831-1144.

theater

"BANNERS & CRANKS NEK, AN EVENING OF CANTASYORIA AND CRANKY PERFORMANCES" Virginia-based folk musicians Anna Roberts-Gevalt and Elizabeth Laprelle interpret Appalachian tunes with hand-sewn crankies and painted banners. Appearance by local performers round out the evening. Light Club Lamp Shop, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $15 suggested donation. Info 626-4409.

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE. Starring Meera Syal, Rufus Norris' production of *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* explores life in a slum on the outskirts of Mumbai, India. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 7 p.m. $16.24. Info 748-2600.

ORWELL IN AMERIEA See WED 18. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

SLOWGIRL See WED 18.

SPRING AWAKENING See WED 15.

"A TOXIC EXPERIENCE. THE INSIDE STORY" Montreal-based artist Mona Rintenbery brings a spirit of survival to a one-woman show about her experience in a psychiatric institution. Adult language and content. for ages 18 and up. Black Box Theater, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, Burlington. 2 & 7 p.m. $20. Info 683-7575.

"TYPHOON OF TENDERNESS" See WED 18.

words

AMERICAN JEWISH POETRY Lit lovers analyze how selected verse relates to Jewish identity and history. Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington. 2-3 p.m. Free. Info 864-0216.

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Vermont's Biggest
Home & Recreation EXPO
Over 150 Booths Expected
MARCH 20, 21 & 22
Fri. 2-8pm • Sat. 9am-5pm • Sun. 9am-3pm
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FEATURING VERMONT FOOD & SPIRITS
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Wine • Cheese • Fudge • Herbs • Teas • Nuts • Hard Cider • Vodka • Spices • Pies • Iced Cider • Kettle Corn • Rub • Chutney • Candles • Ice Cream • Jams • Sprouts • Baked Goods • Restaurant Fare • Cocktails
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Bank CELEBRATION SERIES presents
SAT. MARCH, 21, 7:30 PM
Edward Arron & Jeewon Park
Beethoven Variations in E-flat Major on "Bei Mannern" from Mozart's The Magic Flute
Beethoven Sonata in C Major, Opus 102, No. 1
Piazzolla Le Grand Tango (1982)
Rachmaninoff Sonata in g minor, Opus 19
sponsors The Friends of Classical Music
No Strings Marionettes
THE HOBBIT
Sun., March 22, 1 p.m.
THE GIBSON BROTHERS
2013 International Bluegrass Music Association Entertainers of the Year
WLVB SATURDAY WDEV
MARCH 28, 8 PM,
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For tickets, call the Barre Opera House at 802-476-8188 or order online at www.barreoperahouse.org

THU 19 « P 55

BASICS OF BUILDING AN AUTHOR PLATFORM Cindy Barnes and Kim MacQueen of Barnes MacQueen Publishing Resources present online tools that increase writers' visibility among readers and publishers. Karma Bird House Gallery Burlington 7–9 p.m. $25–30. Info, lvw@leagueofvermontwriters.org.

EDWARD NIRSCH The award-winning poet pays homage to his craft in *How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love With Poetry*. Stearns Cinema, Johnson State College, 5 p.m. Free. Info, 635-1340.

PETER SHEA. The master angler casts a line in Vermont *Trout Ponds*, an ode to his favorite fishing spots. Phoenix Books Burlington, 6:30 p.m. $3. Info, 448-3350.

THIRD THURSDAY POETRY SLAM Pizza fuels poets for a stanza extravaganza. Main Reading Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 6:15 p.m. Free. Info, 324-3538.

FRI.20

community

FEAST TOGETHER OR FEAST TO GO Senior citizens and their guests catch up over a shared meal. Montpelier Senior Activity Center, noon–1 p.m. $7.50; preregister. Info, 262-6288.

HAITI HIGH 2015 Live tunes from A House on Fire enliven a benefit for Northern Friends of Haiti, featuring dancing, art and a live auction. Higher Ground Showcase Lounge, South Burlington, 7 p.m. $50. Info, 345-4699.

HOME SHARE NOW INFORMATION SESSION Locals get up-to-date details on home sharing opportunities in central Vermont. Home Share Now, Barre, 5:30–6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 479-8544.

OPEN HEART CIRCLE. A safe, coed space encourages gratitude, reflection, affirmation and more. Sacred Mountain Studio, Burlington, 5:45–7:45 p.m. Donations. Info, 922-3724.

conferences

EXPLORE TRAUMA. Workshops and presentations help health care professionals learn how to deal with different stages of trauma. Angell College Center, SUNY Plattsburgh, N.Y., 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m. $50–125; preregister. Info, 518-564-3054.

crafts

ARM KNITTING No needles are necessary when folks go out on a limb with this creative twist on traditional knitting. Yarn and Yoga, Bristol, 4–7 p.m. Cost of yarn. Info, 453-7799.

dance

BALLROOM & LATIN DANCING · SALSA. Samir Elabd leads choreographed steps for singles and couples. No partner or experience is required. Williston Jazzercise Fitness Center, introductory lesson 7–8 p.m., dance social 8:30–9:30 p.m. $10–14. Info, 862-2269.

DANCING UPHILL 2015 See THU 19.

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE Roxann Nickerson joins McKinley James, Aaron Marcus, Susan Reid and Guillaume Sparrow-Peplin in live tunes for newcomers and experienced movers alike. All dances are called and taught. Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Introductory workshop 7–7:30 p.m., dance 7:30–9:30 p.m. $10; bring a snack to share. Info, 899-2378.

TRIP DANCE COMPANY Competitive dancers ages 9 through 19 interpret ballet, jazz, lyrical and modern styles. Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center, Stowe Mountain Resort, 7 p.m. $20–25. Info, 760-4634.

education

EDCAMP CENTERPOINT Educators and community members create the day's schedule at a learner-driven "unconference." Centerpoint School, Winooski, 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Free. Info, 363-0416.

etc.

LIFE, DEATH AND CONTINUUM RETREAT See THU 19. 7 a.m.–9 p.m.

SNOW FARM WINE DOWN Folks welcome the weekend with live music and local beer and wine in a pastoral setting. See snowfarm.com for details. Snow Farm Vineyard, South Hero, 6 p.m. Cost of drinks. Info, 372-9463.

film

GLOBAL ROOTS FILM FESTIVAL: HIGHWAY Five different stories intertwine during an ill-fated bus ride to Kathmandu, Nepal, in Deepak Rauniyar's drama, in Nepalese with English subtitles. O'Brien Community Center, Winooski, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 660-2600.

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL. An annual cinematic celebration delights moviegoers with a diverse lineup of films and presentations by distinguished guests. See gmffestivat.org for details. Various Montpelier locations. $7.10–$30.175 passes. Info, 262-3423.

games

CASINO NIGHT Players don Hollywood-themed attire for an evening of gaming and auctions benefiting the United Way of Lamoille County. Stearns Performance Space, Johnson State College, 8 p.m.–midnight. $15. Info, 635-1478.

WINE WITH FRIENDS, BOARD GAME NIGHT: Fireside rounds of cards and board games pair well with sips of vino. Fresh Tracks Farm Vineyard & Winery, Berlin, 5–8 p.m. Free. Info, 223-1151.

health & fitness

AVOID FALLS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY. A personal trainer demonstrates daily exercises for seniors concerned about their balance. Pines Senior Living Community, South Burlington, 10:11 a.m. $5–6. Info, 658-7477.

COMMUNITY VINTASA WITH CANOACE. Students of all skill levels deepen the body-mind breath connection. South End Studio, Burlington, noon–1 p.m. $6. Info, 683-4918.

FABULOUS FRIDAYS: HERE COMES THE SUN. Yoga devotees bond over common interests in a lighthearted practice that encourages connection and community. ArtsRiot, Burlington, 6:15 p.m. $15. Info, 540-0405.

QUIT TOBACCO A nonjudgmental support session welcomes those looking to kick the habit. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, noon. Free; preregister. Info, 879-4918.

YOGA CONSULT Yogis refine their practice with helpful tips. Fusion Studio Yoga & Body Therapy, Montpelier, 11 a.m. Free; preregister. Info, 272-8923.

kids

EARLY BIRD MATH One plus one equals fun. Youngsters and their caregivers gain exposure to mathematics through books, songs and games. Richmond Free Library, 11 a.m.–noon. Free. Info, 434-3036.

MUSIC WITH ROBERT Sing-alongs with Robert Resnik hit all the right notes. Daycare programs welcome with one caregiver for every two children. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 10:30–11 a.m. Free; groups must preregister. Info, 865-7216.

STORIES WITH MEGAN Engaging narratives enthrall budding bookworms ages 2 through 5. Robert Miller Community & Recreation Center, Burlington, 10:30–11 a.m. Free. Info, 865-7216.

montréal

HOSANNA See WED 18.

YES ART EXPO Art lovers converge for a showcase of works by Quebec's emerging artists. See yesmontreal.ca for details. Theatre St. James, Montreal, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free. Info, 514-878-9788.

music

40TH ARMY BAND See WED 18. Auditorium Rutland Intermediate School, 7 p.m. Free. Info, 338-5480.

RAPHAËL SÉVÈRE Technical mastery meets musicality when the celebrated French clarinetist performs. Paramount Theatre, Rutland, 7:30 p.m. $10–20. Info, 775-0903.

seminars

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO ANIMAL VACCINATION. Veterinarian Anne M. Carroll outlines past and present protocols, then discusses ways to treat four-legged friends without taking excessive risks. Community Room, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier, 5:30–7 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 223-8000 ext. 202.

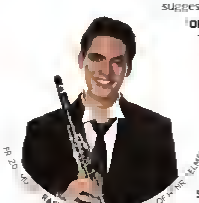
talks

ELDER EDUCATION ENRICHMENT SERIES. Director of aviation Gene Richards comes in for a landing in "TV Upgrades, Efficiencies and the Future at Burlington International Airport." Faith United Methodist Church, South Burlington, 2 p.m. $5. Info, 864-3516.

JUSTINE CURGENVEN & SARAH OUTEN. The explorers recount their harrowing 101-day kayaking adventure through the Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska. Outdoor Gear Exchange, Burlington, 8:30–10:30 p.m. $5. Info, 860-0190.

theater

"BANNERS & CRANKS NEK: AN EVENING OF CANTASTORIA AND CRANKT PEAFORMANCES" See THU 19. The Parker Pie Co., West Glover, 7:30 p.m. $15 suggested donation. Info, 626-4403.



"ORWELL IN AMERICA" See WED 18. 7:30 p.m.

"RUMORS" A dinner party takes a hilarious turn when guests discover a wounded host and a raising hostess in Neil Simon's madcap comedy staged by the White River Valley Players. See calendar spotlight. Rochester High School, 7:30 p.m. $10–12. Info, 767-3854.

SLOWGIRL See WED 18.

SPRING AWAKENING See WED 18, 7 p.m.

"A TOXIC EXPERIENCE, THE INSIDE STORY" See THU 19.

"TYPHOON OF TENDERNESS" See WED 18. 7:30 p.m.

words

THE ART OF JOURNAL WRITING Putting pen to paper participants experiment with different styles, then discuss their experiences. The Wellness Co-op, Burlington, 5:6 p.m. $5; preregister. Info, 888-452-8216 ext. 302.

BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB Readers voice opinions about Piper Kerman's *Orange is the New Black*. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston, 12:30–1:30 p.m. Free. Info, 878-4918.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP See WED 18. 10:30 a.m.

RAFE MARTIN. The prolific author and storyteller draws from Buddhist and Western traditions in "Tales for the Many Beings." Withey Hall, Green Mountain College, Poultney, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 287-8926.

SAT.21

agriculture

SEED SWAP & SEED STARTING WORKSHOP From pepper plants to mesclun mix, green thumbs prep for the growing season with an overview of indoor and outdoor gardening. Winooski Memorial Library, 1:30–2:30 p.m. Free. Info, 655-6424.

bazaars

BAKE & BOOK SALE. Homemade treats sustain bibliophiles as they leaf through bargain-priced publications. Fairfax United Methodist Church, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, 849-6313.

community

QUEEN CITY MEMORY CAFÉ People with memory loss bond with their caregivers over coffee, conversation and entertainment. Thayer House, Burlington, 10 a.m.–noon. Free. Info, 316-3839.

VERMONT COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS ANNUAL DINNER. Diners honor Mary Powell of Green Mountain Power over a shared meal. Orion Family Student Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester; reception, 6 p.m., dinner, 7 p.m. $100; preregister. Info, ga l@vermont.org.

crafts

KNIT OR FELT AN EASTER BASKET Crafters create one-of-a-kind receptacles for eggs and candy. Yarn and Yoga, Bristol, 2:30–4:30 p.m. Free to attend; cost of yarn. Info, 453-7799.

dance

DANCING UPHILL 2015 See THU 19. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

LINE DANCE FUNDRAISER Beginners take steps with Denise LaCroix-Brault. Proceeds benefit Invisible Children. North End Studio A, Burlington, 4:30–6:15 p.m. $20. Info, 863-6713.

TRIP DANCE COMPANY See FRI 20.

USA DANCE VT COMMUNITY BALLROOM DANCE SOCIAL. Twinkle-toed movers celebrate the art of dance from the foxtrot to Argentine tango. Elley-Long Music Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 7:11 p.m. $10. Info, usadancevt@gmail.com.

education

VSAC COLLEGE PATHWAYS Students and parents get schooled in the college application process. Ross Sports Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Free; preregister. Info, 654-2795.

etc.

BIKE JAM Gearheads help low-income Vermonters with repairs, while others craft jewelry out of old bicycle parts or help out around the shop. Bike Recycle Vermont, Burlington, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info, dan@bikerecycle.localmotion.org.

BLACK TIE GALA Revelers dress to impress at a benefit for Lake Champlain International and the Vermont Fresh Network. Greenfield Meadery, Colchester, 6–10 p.m. $10–30; for ages 21 and up. Info, 497-2345.

CALCUTTA NIGHT Folks share a meal, then vie for prizes including $1,100 to the top winner. Proceeds benefit the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction's mission trip to Jamaica. Catamount Country Club, Williston, 5:30 p.m. $125; includes one calcutta ball and dinner for two. Info, 607-437-0310.

LIFE, DEATH AND CONTINUUM RETREAT See THU 19. 7 a.m.–9 p.m.

fairs & festivals

BURLINGTON IRISH HERITAGE FESTIVAL. The best of Ireland comes to the Queen City with music, dance, workshops and presentations. See burlingtonirishheritage.org for details. Various Burlington locations, 7 p.m. Prices vary. Info, info@burlingtonirishheritage.org.

CABOT MAPLE FESTIVAL A pancake breakfast kicks off a day dedicated to maple syrup in all its glory. Crafts vendors, comedy, live music and dancing complete the fun. Cabot High School, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Prices vary; most events are free. Info, 563-3338.

film

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL. See FRI 20.

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL: AWAKE: THE LIFE OF YOGANANDA Paola di Florio and Lisa Leeman's documentary examines the legacy of the famed Hindu mystic Paramahansa Yogananda. A reception follows at Vermont College of Fine Arts. The Savoy Theater, Montpelier, noon. $7–10. Info, 223-0050.

IDLE THREAT Determined to change New York City's curbside idling laws, George Pakenham's documentary chronicles his eco-minded efforts. Bring personal mugs and bowls to the waste-free event. Jericho Community Center, 6:30 p.m. Free. Info, 899-4863.

WOMEN S FILM FESTIVAL Documentaries features and shorts directed by leading ladies tell compelling stories at this 24th annual cinematic assembly. See womensfreedomcenter.net for details. Latchis Hotel & Theater, Brattleboro. noon–9 p.m. $8–50. $35 five-show pass. Info 257-7364.

food & drink

CAPITAL CITY WINTER FARMERS MARKET Root veggies, honey, maple syrup and more change hands at an off-season celebration of locally grown food. Cafeteria, Montpelier High School. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info 223-2058.

CHOCOLATE TASTING Chocoholics sample confections and discover the steps involved in evaluating flavor profiles. Lake Champlain Chocolates Factory Store & Cafe, Burlington. 3 p.m. Free. Info 864-1807.

JUNIOR IRON CHEF VERMONT Middle and high school students put their culinary skills to the test at this statewide competition highlighting local ingredients. Champlain Valley Exposition, Essex Junction. 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. $3-5. Info 434-4122.

MIDDLEBURY BEVERAGE WINE & CRAFT BEER SHOW Cheers! An epic tasting session raises funds for St. Mary's School. Middlebury Town Hall Theater. 4–7 p.m. $20–$30 per couple. Info 802-382-9222.

MIDDLEBURY WINTER FARMERS MARKET Crafts, cheeses, breads, veggies and more vie for spots in shoppers' totes. Gymnasium, Mary Hogan Elementary School, Middlebury. 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. Info 989-7223.

NEW YORK STATE MAPLE WEEKEND Maple producers open their doors to the public for tastings, sap-boiling demos and more. See nysmaple.com for details. Various New York locations. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Prices vary. Info 518-726-7139.

RUTLAND WINTER FARMERS MARKET More than 50 vendors offer produce, cheese, homemade bread and other made-in-Vermont products at the bustling indoor venue. Vermont Farmers Food Center, Rutland. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Free. Info 753-7269.

SHELBURNE SUGAR ON SNOW Folks welcome spring with maple syrup treats, sap-boiling demos, live music and a petting zoo. Palmer's Sugarhouse, Shelburne. noon–4 p.m. Free. Info, 985-5054.

SUGAR ON SNOW Served with a dill pickle and a doughnut, Vermont's signature sweet shines when drizzled atop snow. Vermont Country Store, Weston & Rockingham. noon–2:30 p.m. Free. Info 362-5950.

games

LIFE-SIZE CANDY LAND GAME. Players of all ages walk the board and pay a visit to the Candy Cane Forest and Gum Drop Mountain. Proceeds support Drew Bemer, a Barre resident stricken with childhood cancer. Barre Congregational Church. 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Donations. Info 476-3065.

health & fitness

ADVANCED INTEGRATIVE THERAPY DEMONSTRATIONS Glenn Soberman introduces the energy psychotherapy aimed at releasing stress, anxiety, fear and other negative emotions. Pathways to Well Being, Burlington. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Free. preregister for a time slot. Info glennsoberman@gmail.com.

FITNESS BOOT CAMP Participants improve strength, agility, endurance and cardiovascular fitness with interval training. Middlebury Municipal Gym. 7:30–8:30 a.m. $10. Info 343-7160.

PRENATAL YOGA & BARRE See WED 18. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

R.I.P.P.E.D. See WED 18. 9–10 a.m.

holidays

CONCERT FOR ST. PATRICK FEATURING THE SLIGO ROUND SIX The Philadelphia-based youth ensemble joins local performers in a show of traditional tunes. McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 7:30 p.m. Donations. Info 233-5293.

kids

BURLINGTON SATURDAY STORY TIME Tots and their caregivers listen to entertaining tales. Phoenix Books Burlington. 11 a.m. Free. Info 448-3350.

DENTAL DAY Stories, brushing and flossing teach youngsters about oral hygiene and what to expect when visiting the dentist. Buttered Noodles, Williston. 10 a.m.–noon. Free. Info 764-1610.

INSTRUMENT PETTING ZOO Little ones check out percussion and string instruments from around the world. Milton Town Offices. 9–11 a.m. Free. Info 233-5293.

MIDDLEBURY SATURDAY STORY TIME Captivating narratives arrest the attention of young ones. Ilsley Public Library, Middlebury. 10:30–11 a.m. Free. Info 388-4095.

ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING See WED 18. 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

PLAY DATE! SPRING ON THE FARM Tykes ages 2 through 5 sell their own pace and schedule with various nature-based activities. McClure Education Center, Shelburne Farms. 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $3-5. Info 985-8686.

SATURDAY DROP-IN STORY TIME A weekly selection of music and books engages children of all ages. Burnham Memorial Library, Colchester. 10:10–10:30 a.m. Free. Info 264-5664.

STORY EXPLORERS: COLORS Where have all the vibrant hues gone? Kiddos learn about seasonal shades and experiment with a rainbow-themed activity. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Burlington. 10:30 a.m. Free with admission. $9.50–12.50. Info 877-324-6386.

WILDLIFE ENCOUNTER Animal lovers get up close with a variety of critters while learning about their habitats and behaviors in nature. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 11 a.m. Free. Info, 878-4318.

montréal

NOSANNA See WED 18.

TESAGT EXPO See FRI 20. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

music

BACH'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: LIVE MUSICAL TRIBUTE Counterpoint Vermont Suzuki Violins, the Burlington Chamber Orchestra and other area musical groups join in songs as part of the International Bach in the Subways Day. Burlington Town Center Mall. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free. Info 658-2545 ext. 216.

CHAD NOLLISTER BAND The nine-piece ensemble draws from a rich roots rock repertoire. ArtsRiot, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $12.15. Info 540-0406.

CHAMPLAIN PHILHARMONIC A spring concert features works by Dvořák and Beethoven and appearances by concerto competition winners Nova Wang and Enn Dundas. Ackley Hall, Green Mountain College, Poultney. 7:30 p.m. $6–15. Info 782-4365.

EDWARD AARON & JEEWON PARK The rising stars of the classical music world bring the cello and piano to life in a program of works by Piazzolla, Beethoven and Rachmaninoff. Barre Opera House. 7:30 p.m. $15–27. Info 476-8188.

LAVROVA/PRIMAKOV DUO Four hands are better than two when celebrated concert pianists Natalia Lavrova and Vassily Primakov join forces onstage. See calendar spotlight. Chandler Music Hall, Randolph. 7:30 p.m. $10–32. Info 728-6464.

VERMONT STATE SACRED HARP SINGING An open sing-along of early American music in the fa-sol-la tradition welcomes vocalists of all abilities. Weybridge Elementary School, Middlebury. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free. bring a dish to share. Info 989-4571.

THE YARUND ETTUN PROJECT Melding Baroque aesthetics with contemporary selections, pianist Haruka Yabuno and bassist Ehud Ettun straddle the line between classical and jazz. Brandon Music. 7:30 p.m. $15–$35. Includes dinner package; preregister. BYOB. Info 247-4295.

SAT 21 » P 58

SHELBURNE CRAFT SCHOOL
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HEALTH AND LONGEVITY
Qigong is the ancient Chinese art of creating health by combining visualization, meditation, movement, and breath.
Northern Dipper Qigong Class
Wednesday evenings for 13 weeks
Beginning March 25th, 6-7 p.m.
Taught by Arthur Makans, a licensed acupuncturist and master of Chinese martial arts with over 30 years of experience. Qigong is the ancient Chinese art of cultivating health by combing visualization, meditation, movement, and breath. Northern Dipper Qigong includes gentle movements that stretch and open the spine. The practice of qigong increases harmony among the mind, body, and breath, generating greater health and vitality.
NORTHERN DIPPER QIGONG WILL FOCUS ON:
Essence, Breath, and Mind
Physical and Energetic Alignment
Opening Qi • Gathering Qi
Acupuncture & Qigong Health Center
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www.daosnow.org
To register, call 879-7999

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Central Vermont Medical Center

SAT 21 « P.57

outdoors

RIRO WALK Break out the binoculars! Birders trek through diverse habitats to gather information for the Vermont eBird database. Call to confirm. Meet at the parking lot on Tabor Road. Old Railroad Passage Trail. Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge, Swanton. 8–10 a.m. Free. preregister. Info #68-4781

SNOWSHOE HIKE Outdoor enthusiasts gain a total of 1700 feet in elevation on a trek to Butler Lodge via the Nebraska Notch Trail and the Long Trail. Mount Mansfield State Forest, Stowe. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Free. preregister. Limited space. Info 899-9982

SNOWSHOE WALK Nature lovers explore snow-covered terrain in search of tracks and other signs of wildlife. Muddy Brook Wetland Reserve, South Burlington. 1–3 p.m. Free. preregister. Info, 863-5744

seminars

EARLY CHILDHOOD SOCIO-EMOTIONAL SKILLS WORKSHOP Parents, teachers and daycare providers discover ways to encourage the development of emotional, interpersonal and self-regulation skills in little ones. Craftsbury Public Library. 9:30–11 a.m. Free. preregister. limited space. Info 586-9683

GENEALOGY SEMINAR An overview of autosomal DNA testing that locates genetic cousins reaches the outer limbs of family trees. Vermont Genealogy Library, Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. 10:30 a.m.–noon. $5. Info 310-9295

VCAM ORIENTATION Video-production hounds learn basic concepts and nomenclature at an overview of VCAM facilities, policies and procedures. VCAM Studio, Burlington. 11 a.m. Free. Info 651-9692.

sports

RELAY FOR LIFE NORDIC STYLE. Winter athletes cross-country ski or snowshoe around a groomed oval from sunset to sunrise to raise funds for the American Cancer Society. Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe. 6 p.m. Donations. Info 872-6316

talks

HOW TO TALK TO KIDS ABOUT RACISM A facilitated discussion on group addresses the far-reaching effects of racism and white privilege. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 3:30–5 p.m. Free. Info 863-2345, ext. 9

PETER LEVINE The director of the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement keynotes a luncheon hosted by the League of Women Voters of Vermont. Hearth Room, Best Western Waterbury, Stowe. 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Free. preregister. Info 899-3657

theater

"GROUNDHOG OPERY" Woodchuck Theatre Company cures cabin fever with a zany production of skits, songs and stories. Thatcher Brook Primary School, Waterbury. 7:30 p.m. $12. Info 877-6737

THE MET LIVE IN HD SERIES Joyce DiDonato and Juan Diego Florez transport viewers to medieval Scotland in a broadcast production of Rossini's *La Donna del Lago*. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 12:55 p.m. $16–24. Info 748-2600

MOST DANGEROUS WOMEN STAGED READING AUDITION Singers and actresses vie for spots in a production about the history of the international women's peace movement. See pjcvt.org for details. Peace & Justice Center, Burlington. 2–6 p.m. Free. preregister. Info 448-2411

"ORWELL IN AMERICA" See WED 18. 7:30 p.m.

"RUMORS" See FRI.20

"SLOWGIRL" See WED 18

"SPRING AWAKENING" See WED 18. 2 & 7 p.m.

"STUDIES IN HUMANITY" Choreographers Hanna Satterlee, Marly Spieser Schnieder, Isadora Snapp and Avi Waring excerpt new works in a diverse program. Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center, Burlington. 7 p.m. $12–16. Info 863-5966

"TYPHOON OF TENDERNESS" See WED 18

words

BURLINGTON WRITERS WORKSHOP BOOK CLUB Lit lovers exchange ideas about Elizabeth Bishop's poetry. Studio 266, Burlington. 11 a.m. Free. preregister at burlingtonwriterworkshop.com. Info 363-8104.

HEALING ART & WRITING Participants write, draw and share stones to navigate the challenges of healing. The Writers Barn, Shelburne. 10 a.m.–noon. $20 suggested donation. Info 922-7541

SUN.22

agriculture

GARDENING WITH MEDICINAL HERBS A tutorial with Heather Irvine of Giving Tree Botanicals gives horticultural sistas the dirt on how to grow, harvest and use a wide variety of plants. City Market/Onion River Co-op, Burlington. 12:30–2:30 p.m. $5. 10 preregister. limited space. Info, 861-9700

bazaars

MONTPELIER ANTIQUES MARKET The past comes alive with offerings of furniture, artwork, jewelry and more at this ephemera extravaganza. Canadian Club, Barre Town. 8 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $2. 5. Info 751-6136

community

DK ARC PRACTICE A Who am I? B. What do I want to be? C. How can I change the world? An open meeting explores these inquiries. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 4:45–6 p.m. Free. Info 989-9684

VILLAGE UNIVERSITY, THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE & RESOURCES OF JERICHO Members of the town's Mobbs Farm Committee and Jericho-Underhill Land Trust give updates on current and future projects. Jericho Community Center. 2–4 p.m. Free. Info 899-2366



dance

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING All ages and skill levels convene for circle and line dances which are taught, reviewed and prompted. No partner necessary but clean, soft-soled shoes are required. Socials Room, Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington. 7:30–9:30 p.m. $2. free first session. Info, 730-2174

"VISHALA: EAPANSE" As part of the Spilling Ink Project, Vijay Palaparty and Nalini Prakash perform a repertoire informed by classical dance traditions of southern India. See calendar spotlight. UVM Recital Hall, Redstone Campus, Burlington. 4:30 p.m. $5–15. Info 860-9555

etc.

AARP TAX PREP ASSISTANCE Tax counselors straighten up financial affairs for low- and middle-income taxpayers, with special attention to those ages 60 and up. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 1–4:30 p.m. Free. preregister for a timeslot. Info 865-7211

LIFE, DEATH AND CONTINUUM RETREAT See THU 19. 7 a.m.–1 p.m.

film

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL. See FRI 20

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL "THE WISDOM TO SURVIVE: CLIMATE CHANGE, CAPITALISM & COMMUNITY" Leading activists and environmentalists including Bill McKibben, Joanna Macy and Ben Falk lend their voices to John Ankele and Anne Macksoud's documentary. The Savoy Theater, Montpelier. 8 p.m. $7–10. Info, 223-0050

WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL. See SAT.21

food & drink

MAPLE HAM DINNER Families feast on a spread of baked ham, mashed potatoes, vegetables, coleslaw and maple-themed desserts, served family-style. Georgia Elementary & Middle School, St. Albans, noon. $6–12, $35 per family; free for kids under 5. Info $24-3330

NEW YORK STATE MAPLE WEEKEND See SAT.21

SHELBURNE SUGAR ON SNOW See SAT 21

SUGAR ON SNOW See SAT 21.

SUGAR ON SNOW, ROCKINGHAM See SAT.21

SUGAR ON SNOW PARTY Bring on the syrup! Live music, maple treats and family activities center on Vermont's signature sweet. Milton Grange. 11–4 p.m. Free. Info 363-2598

SUNDAY BREAKFAST Rise and shine! Pancakes, scrambled eggs, corned beef hash, sausage gravy and biscuits await. Proceeds benefit veterans and their families. VFW Post 309, Peru, N.Y., 9 a.m.–noon. $6. Info 518-643-4580

VERMONT MAPLE BREAKFAST From pancakes to pulled pork, maple-inspired fare hits all the palate points. Georgia Mountain Maples, Milton. 8 a.m.–1 p.m. $6-9.5-12.95. Info 363-0607

health & fitness

NIA WITH LINDA Drawing from martial arts, dance arts and healing arts, sensory-based movements inspire participants to explore their potential. South End Studio, Burlington. 9–10 a.m. $14. Info 522-3691

SUNDAT SANGHA: COMMUNITY ASHTANGA YOGA Students of all ages and skill levels hit the mat to breathe through a series of poses. Grateful Yoga, Montpelier. 5:40–7 p.m. $1-20 suggested donation. Info 224-6183

kids

CHARLOTTE'S WEB & PIPPIN AUDITIONS Budding thespians showcase their skills for consideration in tost Nat on Theater's summer productions. Call for details. Montpelier City Hall Auditorium, 1–4 p.m. Free. first come, first served. Info 229-0492.

FAMILY MAPLE MAGIC Kiddos ages 5 and up and their parents take the gallon challenge and boil down sap into syrup, then sample the fruits of their labor. Green Mountain Audubon Center, Huntington. 1–3 p.m. $10-12 per adult/child pair; $4-5 per additional child. preregister. Info 434-3068

KIDS YOGA Strength and balance exercises encourage focus and relaxation in yogis ages 3 through 7. Grateful Yoga, Montpelier. 4:15–5:15 p.m. $12. Info 224-6183

RUSSIAN PLAYTIME WITH NATASHA Youngsters up to age 8 learn new words via rhymes, games, music, dance and a puppet show. Buttered Noodles, Williston. 11–11:45 a.m. Free. Info 764-1810

YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE. Pop, classical, sacred and Broadway hits propel a variety show featuring more than 50 emerging performers. Proceeds benefit HEAL: Raising Our World Foundation. Grace Congregational Church, Rutland. 6:30 p.m. Donations. Info 775-4301.

language

DIMANCHES FRENCH CONVERSATION *Parlez-vous français?* Speakers practice the tongue at a casual drop-in chat. Local History Room, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 4:5:30 p.m. Free. Info 363-2431

montréal

"HOSANNA" See WED 18. 2 p.m.

music

ANNA & ELIZABETH The Virginia-based folk duo brings out the best of the fiddle, the banjo and vocal harmonies with shadow puppets and hand-scrolled "crankie" illustrations. Richmond Congregational Church. 4 p.m. $17.50–20. Info 434-4563

CHAMPLAIN PHILHARMONIC See SAT 21. Middlebury Town Hall Theater. 4 p.m., $5–15. Info 382-9222.

THE EDSHER KATZ A CAPPELLA GROUP UVM students lift their voices in English and Hebrew as part of the Magic of Music series. The Jewish Community of Greater Stowe, 3–4 p.m. Free. Info 253-1600

NORTHERN HARMONY QUARTET A program of a cappella world music travels from the 14th century to Appalachian tunes. Bethany Church of Montpelier. 4 p.m. $10-15 suggested donation. Info 426-3210

NOW PLAYING NEWPORT: EMILY NYMAN From folk to classic rock, the local singer-songwriter delivers an eclectic mix of originals and covers. A reception follows. Newport St. Mark's Episcopal Church. 4–5:15 p.m. $5. Info 334-7365

THE WAXWING FOUR. The all-male a cappella quartet taps into the musical traditions of the American south. New City Galerie, Burlington. 7 p.m. $10-15. Info 735-2542

outdoors

THE GREAT UP AND OVER A snowshoe or cross-country ski up to Slayton Pasture Cabin gives way to prizes, chili and sips of Trapp lager. Proceeds benefit Good Fund. See good fund.org for details. Trapp Family Lodge, Stowe. 10 a.m.–1 p.m. $35, $65–85 per family. Info 253-7068

sports

RELAY FOR LIFE NORDIC STYLE. See SAT 21. 6 a.m.

theater

BRANDON TOWN PLAYERS AUDITION. Thespians ages 16 and up try out for roles in the organization's May production of a live radio show. Brandon Senior Citizens Center, Forestdale. 3 p.m. Free. Info 247-6720

"THE HOBBIT" The adventures of Bilbo Baggins come alive via handcrafted puppets in No Strings Marionette Company's interpretation of J.R.R. Tolkien's magical world. Barre Opera House. 1 p.m. $6. preregister. Info 476-8188

"MOST DANGEROUS WOMEN" STAGED READING AUDITION See SAT 21

"ORWELL IN AMERICA" See WED 18. 5 p.m.

RUMORS See FRI 20. 2 p.m.

SLOWGIRL See WED 18. 2 p.m.

SPRING AWAKENING" See WED 18. 2 p.m.

STUDIES IN HUMANITY" See SAT 21. 4 p.m.

words

I AM TROY DAVIS BOOK DISCUSSION Suzi Wizowaty leads a discussion of Jen Marlowe and Martina Davis-Correia's book about Davis' 20-year fight to prove his innocence for a 1969 murder conviction. Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington. 10–11 a.m. Free. donations accepted. Info, 864-0218

MON.23

dance

MEDITATIVE CIRCLE DANCING Uplifting music enlivens ancient and modern international choreographies for teens, adults and seniors. Ohavi Zedek Synagogue, Burlington. 3:45–5 p.m. Free. Info 978-424-7968

SALSA MONDAYS Dancers learn the techniques and patterns of salsa, merengue, bachata and the cha-cha. North End Studio A, Burlington. Fundamentals 7 p.m., intermediate, 8 p.m. $12. Info 227-2572.

environment

"THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING" BOOK CLUB. See WED 18. 350Vermont, Burlington. 7–8:30 p.m. Free. Info 732-5189-1037

etc.

AARP TAX PREP ASSISTANCE. See THU 19. 9:15–10, 10:45 & 11:30 a.m.

GIRL DEVELOPMENT BURLINGTON SECOND ANNIVERSARY BASH Locals celebrate the organization's efforts to boost the Queen City's tech community. Hotel Vermont, Burlington. 7 p.m. Free. Info burlington@girldevelopit.com.

TAX PREP ASSISTANCE A representative from the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program helps folks file their taxes. Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. 5:30–8 p.m. Free. Info, 426-2016

film

GLOBAL ROOTS FILM FESTIVAL. GREY MATTER Set n Rwanda Kivu Ruhorahoza s film within a film follows a determined f lmmaker struggling to fund his f rst feature amid the country s social unrest. In Kinyarwanda with English subtitles Community College of Vermont, Winooski 6 30 p m Free Info 660 2600

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL See FRI 20

UN REVE AMÉRICAIN Musician Damien Robitaille drives from Montreal to Los Angeles in search of people of French Canad an descent in Bruno Boulianne s 2013 documentary In French with Engl sh subtitles Room 101 Cheray Science Hall St. Michael s College Colchester 7 p m. $3 suggested donation Free for Alliance Française members Info lclerfeuille@smcvt.edu

games

AFTER-SCHOOL GAMES Youngsters in grades 3 and up swap trading cards or challenge each other to one of the library's games. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library Williston 3-4 p m Free Info 878-4918

TRIVIA NIGHT Teams of quick thinkers gather for a meeting of the minds Lobby Hotel Vermont, Burlington 7 9 p.m. Free Info, 651-5012

health & fitness

AVOID FALLS WITH IMPROVED STABILITY See FRI 20

BEGINNER TAI CHI FOR HEALTH & BALANCE. See THU 19 5 15 6 45 p m

BODY REBOOT CAMP FOR NEW MOMS Using timed Intervals, body weight and other tools an nnovative class helps mothers get fit. Middlebury Municipal Gym 10 11 a m $10 Info, 343-7160

FITNESS BOOT CAMP See WED 18 New Haven Town Hall 5 30-6 30 p m $10 Info 343 7160

PRENATAL YOGA & BARRE See WED 18

R LP P.E.O See WED 18

SUPERFOOD PRIMER. HOW ARO WHAT FOR BREAKFAST LUNCH & DINNER Health coach Marie Frohlich presents 10 nutrition powerhouses that help manage stress levels and create more energy Community Room Hunger Mountain Co-op Montpelier 6 7 p.m. $10 12 preregister Info 223-3000 ext. 202

kids

ALICE IN NOODLELAND Tykes get acquainted over crafts and play while new and expectant parents chat with maternity nurse and lactation consultant Alice Gonyar. Buttered Noodles Williston 10 11 a.m Free Info 764 1610

HIGH SCHOOL FOR A DAY Rice Memorial High School opens it doors to middle schoolers eager to check out classes clubs and sports Rice Memorial High School South Burlington, 8 a.m 2:30 p.m Free preregister Info 862-6521 ext. 235.

KIDS YOGA A fun filled class for students ages 8 through 12 encourages focus creativity and team work Grateful Yoga Montpelier 4 15 5 15 p m $12 Info, 224-6143

MUSIC WITH PETER: Preschoolers up to age 5 bust out songs and dance moves to trad tional and original folk tunes Dorothy Alling Memorial Library Williston 11 a.m Free Jim led to one session per week per family Info 878-4918

ONE ON ONE TUTORING See WED 18

STORIES WITH MEGAN. Engaging narratives enthrall budd ng bookworms ages 2 through 5 Fletcher Free Library Burlington 11 11 30 a m Free Info 865 7216

TODDLER TIME See WED 18

lgbtq

LGBTQ BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES Published in 1952 under a pseudonym Patricia Highsmith s cult classic, *The Price of Salt* inspires a dialogue among readers Kellogg-Hubbard Library Montpelier 6 30 p m. Free Info 223-3338

music

MAD RIVER CHORALE OPEN REHEARSAL. The community chorus welcomes newcomers in preparation for ts June concert. "I Hear America Singing Chorus Room Harwood Un on High School South Duxbury 7 9 p m Free Info, 496 4781

seminars

THINGS THAT MATTERED A weekly class with Bob Mayer highlights artifacts that changed the world In unusual ways and contributed to major develop ments in human h story Ohavi Zedek Synagogue Burlington, 5 45-7 p.m $15 25 Info 864 0218

sports

COED FLOOR HOCKEY Men and women a m for the goal in a friendly league setting The Edge Sports & Fitness Essex, 7-9 p m $5 equipment provided preregister limited space Info gbfloorhockey@gmail.com.

talks

ELDER EDUCATION ENRICHMENT SERIES Archaeologist Jess Robinson unearths key nformation in Bringing the Past to Light: Recent D scoveries and New Interpretations in Vermont Archaeology Faith United Methodist Church South Burl ngton 2 p m $5 Info 864 3515

GARY STARR The birder recounts his internat onal avian adventures in "Birding in Madagascar" Colchester Meeting House 6 30 p.m Free Info, 434-3068

words

ADULT BOOK GROUP Bibliophiles chat about Amando Colm s *The Orchardist* Jaquith Publ c Library Marshfield, 7 p m Free Info, 426 3581

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP See WED 18

TUE.24

community

FEAST TOGETHER OR FEAST TO GO See FRI 20

PARENTING GROUP Moms and dads bond over shared experiences and troubleshoot common frustrations Jaquith Public Library Marshfield 7 8 p m Free Info 426 3581

TUESDAY VOLUNTEER NIGHTS Folks pitch in around the shop by organizing parts moving bikes and tackling other projects Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Bike Recycle Vermont, Burlington, 5-8 p.m. Free. Info 264-9687

dance

ECSTATIC DANCE Free-form movements encourage a union between body mind and music Swan Dojo Burlington 7 15 8 45 p m $3 5 Info 540 8300

INTRO TO TRIBAL BELLY DANCE Ancient traditions define this moving meditation that celebrates creative energy Comfortable clothing required Sacred Mountain Studio Burlington 6 45 p m $13 Info piper.c.emily@gmail.com.

TANGO PRACTICE SESSION. Dancers looking to master the Argent ne tradition focus on their foot work in a weekly class. New City Galerie Burlington 7 10 p m $5 suggested donation Info 617-780 7701 maya@newcitygalerie.org

film

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN SERIES. HENRI CARTIER BRESSON: THE IMPASSIONED EYE Heinz Butler's documentary highlights the illustrious photographer s work from the 1940s to the 1960s. BCA Center Burlington 6 p m Free Info adfilmseries@gmail.com.

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL See FRI 20

"THE USUAL SUSPECTS" Kevin Spacey plays a mastermind criminal n Bryan Singer s 1995 Academy Award-winning thriller Film House, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center Burlington 7 p m. Free First come first served Info 540-3015

games

GAMING FOR TEENS & ADULTS Tabletop games enterta n players of all skill levels Kids 13 and under require a legal guardian or parental permission to attend. Fletcher Free Library Burlington 5 7 45 p m Free Info 865-7216

health & fitness

ACTIVE SENIOR BOOT CAMP Part c pants break a sweat while improving strength flexibil ty and card ovascular health Middlebury Municipal Gym, 10-11 a m $10 Info 343 7160

DROP IN YOGA. Yogis hit the mat for a Hatha class led by Betty Molnar Burnham Memorial Library Colchester 4 30 5 30 p m Free Info 264 5660

FITNESS BOOT CAMP See WED 18 2 Wolves Holistic Center Vergennes 5 30-6 30 p m. $14 Info, 343 7160

GENTLE YOGA WITH JILL LANO Students get their stretch on in a supportive environment. Personal mat required. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library Williston 5 30 p m Free Info 878-4918

PEE WEE PILATES Moms bond with the r babies in a whole body workout. Prenatal Method Studio Burlington 10 30 11 30 a m $15 Info 629 0211

PRENATAL YOGA & BARRE. See WED 18 12 15-1 15 & 4 30 5 30 p.m

kids

BABY & TODDLER STORY TIME A Mother Goose-based morning features rhymes, songs and stories. Ilsley Publ c L brary Middlebury 10 15-10 45 a.m Free Info 388 4095

CREATIVE TUESDAYS Artists exerc se their imaginations with recycled crafts Kids under 8 must be accompanied by an adult. Fletcher Free L brary Burlington 3 5 p m Free Info 865-7216

FAIRFAX STORY HOUR. COLORS & MUSIC Good listeners up to age 6 are rewarded with tales, crafts and activ ties Fairfax Community Library 9 30 10 30 a m Free Info 849 2420

HIGHGATE STORY HOUR See WED 18

MUSIC WITH MR. CHRIS Singer storyteller and puppeteer Chris Dorman entertains wee ones and their parents Buttered Noodles, Williston, 10 10,30 a m. Free Info 764 1610

PRESCHOOL MUSIC Kids ages 3 through 5 sing and dance the morning away Burnham Memor al Library Colchester 11 30 a.m. noon Free. Info, 264-5660

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME & CRAFT Tykes ages 3 through 5 embark an exploration of s lly tales Dorothy Alling Memorial Library Williston 11 a.m Free Info 878-4918

BEAD TO A DOG Lit lovers bond with a congenial canine from Therapy Dogs of Vermont. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library Williston 3 30-4 30 p m Free preregister for a time slot. Info 878-4918

STORY EXPLORERS: SPRING Are warmer temps on the horizon? Children identify environmental changes that signal the arrival of a new season ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center for Lake Champlain Burlington 10 30 a.m. Free with admission $5 50 12 50 Info 877 324-6386

TECH TUESDAYS Tinkerers tackle e-crafts circuits and programming Kellogg Hubbard Library Montpelier 3 30 4 30 p m Free Info 223-4665

TEEN ART STUDIO A local artist inspires adolescents to pursue the r own artistic visions Helen Day Art Center Stowe 6 30-8 30 p m Free preregister Info 253 8358

TEEN TINKER TUESDAY: TEXTING GLOVES Kids ages 12 and up mod fy gloves so as to avo d frozen fingertips when working touch screen devices Burnham Memorial Library Colchester 4 30 5 30 p m Free preregister Info, 264-5660

TODDLER STORY TIME Young uns up to 3 years old have fun with music rhymes snacks and captivating tales Burnham Memorial Library Colchester 10 30 11 a m. Free preregister Info 264-5660

TOUTH MEDIA LAB Aspiring Spielbergs learn about movie-making with television experts. Ilsley Public Library Middlebury 3,30-4 30 p m Free Info 388-4095

language

"LA CAUSERIE: FRENCH CONVERSATION" Native speakers are welcome to p pe up at an unstructured conversational practice for students El Gato Cafena, Burlington 4 30 6 p m Free Info 540 0195

PAUSE CAFÉ FRENCH CONVERSATION French students of all levels engage in dialogue en français Sherpa Kitchen Burlington, 6 30 8 p.m. Free Info 363 2431

seminars

HOW TO GET HAPPIER & SAVE THE PLANET AT THE SAME TIME. Ginny Sassaman and Kathryn Blume lead an upbeat, practical workshop focused on making positives changes and participat ng in the award-w nning game Vermontivate Commun ty Room Hunger Mountain Co-op Montpelier 5 30 7 30 p m $5 10 preregister Info 223-8000 ext. 202

talks

BRIDGING CULTURES OPEN CONVERSATION Land Use and Conservation nspires a nonjudgmental multicultural dialogue. Fletcher Free Library Burlington 6 8 p m Free Info 338 4627

DAVID RAEFE The Vermont Energy Investment Corporat on consultant lends his expertise to "Apply ng Building Science in Real Construction." Catamount Arts Center St. Johnsbury lunch 11 30 a m.-noon presentation noon-1 p m. Free prereg ster limited space Info 477 5041

XUNTZ LECTURE. Author and UVM history lecturer Charles Briggs brings the past into the present in "Thinking Globally About the Hundred Years' War." Farrell Room St. Edmund s Hall St. Michael s College Colchester 7 p m Free Info 654-2318

PANEL DISCUSSION: FEMALE ATHLETES & EXPLORERS Jon Reynolds, Kasie Enman and Jess e Donavan consider women s place in the world of adventure and competitive sports Stearns Performance Space Johnson State College 4 p.m Free Info 635 1401

theater

MACBETH The Acting Company presents Shakespeare s tragedy about a corrupt general s quest to become King of Scotland Hartman Theatre Myers Fine Arts Building, SUNY Plattsburgh, N Y 7 30 p.m $3-15 Info 518-564 3095

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE. Murder and mayhem on the h gh seas are broadcast to the b g screen In Bryony Lavery s adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson s *Treasure Island* For ages 10 and up Catamount Arts Center St. Johnsbury 7 p m. $16-24 Info 748 2600

ORWELL IN AMERICA See WED 18 7 30 p m

POPOVICH COMEDY PET THEATER Rescued cats and dogs take center stage in skits and stunts led by the award winning circus performer Lebanon Opera House, N.H 7 p m. $15 35 Info 603-448 0400

WED.25

agriculture

USDA STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING Committee members consider the technical guidlines necessary to implement the conservation provisions of the Farm Bill. USDA Service Center Colchester 9 30 a.m noon Free. Info, 951-6796

community

PEER SUPPORT CIRCLE See WED 18



WED 25 » P60

WED 25 « P55

crafts

KNITTERS & NEEDLEWORKERS See WED 18.

dance

AFROLATIN PARTY See WED 18

etc.

TECH TUTOR PROGRAM Teens answer questions about computers and devices during one-on-one sessions. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 5:30–7:30 p.m. Free. Preregister for a time slot. Info 878-4918.

film

COMMUNITY CINEMA: AMERICAN DENIAL Llewellyn Smith's documentary examines the impact of Nobel Laureate Gunnar Myrdal's 1944 race relations study *An American Dilemma*. Catamount Arts Center, St. Johnsbury. 7 p.m. Free. Info 748-2600.

"FREEDOM & UNITY: THE VERMONT MOVIE, PART 4" "Doers and Shapers" spotlights people and institutions that pushed sociopolitical boundaries. Bradford Public Library. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info 222-4536.

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL See FRI 20.

food & drink

COFFEE TASTING See WED 18

health & fitness

FITNESS BOOT CAMP See WED 18

FREEDOM IN YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH FOOD: FIVE STEPS FOR TRANSFORMING YOUR BODY AND LIFE Holistic health coach Krissy Ruddy shares ways to conquer cravings and achieve mental and physical balance. Community Room, Hunger Mountain Co-op, Montpelier. 6–7 p.m. $8–10, preregister. Info 223-8000, ext. 202.

INSIGHT MEDITATION See WED 18

PRENATAL YOGA & BARRE See WED 18

R.I.P.P.E.D. See WED 18

TANGOFLOW! See WED 18

kids

CELEBRATE SPRING! Rabbi Tobie Weisman introduces the Jewish holiday of Passover to kiddos ages 2 through 5. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington. 11 a.m. Free. Info 865-7216.

HIGNGATE STORY HOUR See WED 18

MEET ROCKIN' RON THE FRIENDLY PIRATE See WED 18

ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING See WED 18

STORY TIME & PLAYGROUP See WED 18

TODDLER TIME See WED 18

language

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS See WED 18

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE CLASS See WED 18

ITALIAN CONVERSATION GROUP *Parla italiano?* A native speaker leads a language practice for all ages and abilities. Room 101, St. Edmund's Hall, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 7–9 p.m. Free. Info 899-3869.

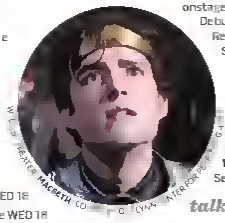
montréal

HOSANNA See WED 18. 8 p.m.

music

IN THE MOMENT Every show is different when the improvisational music group featuring Charlie Messing, Caleb Bronz, Evan Davey and Sam Hughes performs. BCA Center, Burlington. 8–10 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Info 865-7166.

JENNIFER BIRD ARVIOSSON & PAUL ORGEL The soprano and pianist, respectively, join forces onstage to interpret works by Purcell, Debussy, Mahler, Berg and Bernstein. Recital Hall, McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. $10 suggested donation. Info 654-2284.



sports

PREMIER FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE See WED 18

WOMEN'S PICKUP BASKETBALL See WED 18

talks

BURLINGTON DEATH CAFÉ Folks meet for tea, light fare and conversations about death aimed at accessing a fuller life. Dobra Tea, Burlington. 6:30–8 p.m. Free. Info 985-8364.

CONVERSATIONS SERIES Fran Stoddard moderates a discussion between Walter Wick and Alissa Kauppila, who consider curiosity as experienced through art, spirit and nature. Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education, Shelburne Museum. 4 p.m. Free; donations accepted. Info, 985-3819.

JOHN SLAGE Referencing his years in Norway, the lecturer presents more than 150 photographs in the narrated slide show "Innovation and the Clean Energy Renaissance." A Q&A follows. Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info 223-3338.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: GINA BARRECA The academic and humorist brings her quick wit to an examination of women and humor. Clinton Community College, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 6:30–8 p.m. Free. Info, 518-562-4160.

theater

"MACBETH" See TUE.24. Flynn MainStage, Burlington. 7:30 p.m. $15–40. Info 863-5966.

"THE MENAECHMUS TWINS" St. Michael's College students put a creative twist on gender stereotypes in a retelling of Plautus' comedy of errors about long-lost brothers reunited after a series of near misses. McCarthy Arts Center, St. Michael's College, Colchester. 7 p.m. Free. Info 654-2260.

"ORWELL IN AMERICA" See WED.18

"SLOWGIRL" See WED 18. 7:30 p.m.

words

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP See WED 18

KIM DANNIES The *Williston Observer* food writer compiles 10 years of columns on family and recipes into *Everyday Gourmet*. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, Williston. 6:30 p.m. Free. Info 878-4918.

NEW ENGLAND RAMBLE: DINE & DISCUSS Readers join Ed Cashman for a shared meal and conversation about Chris Bohjalian's *Midwives*. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. 6–8 p.m. Free; bring a dish inspired by the book. Info 878-6955.

TALES FROM THE BEAR CAVE Wordsmiths flock to an evening of open-mic off-the-cuff storytelling based on the theme "Cold Days, Hot Nights." ArtsRiot, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. Free. Info, 540-0406.

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art

LIT WITH LAMPS Design your own trendy pendant lamp to hang anywhere in your home while enjoying artisan brews from Burlington Beer Company or Wine. Participants will learn the basics of lamp electrical circuits and wire their own cords. Leave class with a finished lamp and the knowledge to DIY at home. *Mon. 20. 6–9 p.m. Cost: $50/person; $40/members; $85/two. Location: ONE Arts Center, 72 N. Champlain St., Burlington. Info: Becca McHale, 388-0028, oneartscollective@gmail.com, eventbrite.com/e/lit-with-lamps-tickets-15833959746.*

burlington city arts

BCA
BURLINGTONCITYARTS

Call 865-7166 for info or register online at burlingtoncityarts.org. Teacher bios are also available online.

ABSTRACT PAINTING Students will explore the exciting possibilities of abstract painting. Students can choose their own paint medium (water soluble oils, acrylics or watercolor) and should bring in some ideas or reference materials to use as a starting place. BCA provides glass palettes, easels, painting trays and drying racks. Material list online. Instructor: Linda Jones. *Weekly on Tue., Mar. 31–May 19, 6–8:30 p.m. Cost: $210/person; $189/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

CLAY: SILKSCREEN SLIP TRANSFERS Using silkscreen printing techniques to transfer slip on your clay work can add esthetic depth hard to achieve when painting slips directly onto your work. In this lecture-style class, Chris Vaughn will demonstrate the possibilities of surface decoration using slip transfers on thrown and slab-built forms and introduce basic silkscreen techniques using photo emulsion. *Sun., Apr. 19, 1:30–3 p.m. Cost: $25/person; $22.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington.*

CLAY: THROWING SETS Students will be guided through the process of creating wheel-thrown sets. Topics will include making multiples of the same piece, stacking mugs and nesting bowls, and serving sets specific to a type of food or beverage. This intermediate-level course is intended for students with proficiency in centering, throwing cups and throwing bowls. Instructor: Chris Vaughn. *weekly on Thu., Apr. 23–May 14, 12:30–3 p.m. Cost: $140/person; $126/BCA members. Location: BCA Clay Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington.*

COMICS Students will create a six-to-eight-page self-published mini-comic featuring hand-drawn characters and stories. Students will work with a variety of media including pencil, ink, colored pencil and watercolor. Students can explore various comic formats including single-panel, four-panel and multiple-panel strips. No previous drawing experience required. Material list online. Instructor: Glynnis Fawkes. *Weekly on Thu., Apr. 9–May 21 (no class Apr. 23), 6:30–8:30 p.m. Cost: $210/person; $189/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

DESIGN: ADOBE INDESIGN Learn the basics of Adobe InDesign, a creative computer program used for magazine and book layout, for design, typing text and for preparing digital and print publications. Students will explore a variety of software techniques and will create projects suited to their own interests. Bring a Mac-compatible flash drive to the first class. No experience necessary. Instructor: Rachel Hooper. *Mon., Mar. 30–May 4, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Cost: $205/person; $184.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

JEWELRY: CHASING AND REPOUSSÉ Take your skills a step further and learn the craft of chasing and repoussée. Repoussée is a metalworking technique in which a malleable metal is ornamented or shaped by hammering from the reverse side. Chasing is done on the opposite side and the two are used in conjunction to create a finished, embossed piece. Pair with Dangles. Prerequisite: Jewelry and Fine Metals experience. Instructor: Rebecca Macomber. *Weekly on Thu., Apr. 2–16, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Cost: $105/person; $94.50/BCA members. Location: Generator, 250 Main St. (Memorial Auditorium), Burlington.*

PHOTO: ADOBE LIGHTROOM Upload, organize, edit and print your digital photographs using Adobe Photoshop Lightroom. Importing images, using RAW files, organization, fine-tuning tone and contrast, color and white balance adjustments and archival painting on our Epson 3880 printer will all be covered. Bring a Mac-compatible portable flash or hard drive with your images to the first class. Pair this class with Digital SLR Camera for a 12-week experience and learn the ins and outs of photo editing and printing. Instructor: Dan Lovell. No experience necessary. *Wed., Apr. 1–May 6, 6–8 p.m. Cost: $260/person; $234/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

PHOTO: ALTERNATIVE DARKROOM PROCESS PRINTING ON GLASS, WOOD AND METAL: Learn new aspects of black-and-white darkroom printmaking. Students will learn to print on a variety of materials, including watercolor paper, fabric, wood, metal and glass using Liquid Light, an emulsion that can be painted on a variety of surfaces for a unique effect. Bring you film/digital negatives and decals to the first class. Prerequisite: Intro to Black-and-White Film and the Darkroom or equivalent experience. Instructor: Dana Dunham. *Weekly on Wed., Apr. 8–Apr. 22, 6–9 p.m. Cost: $135/person; $121/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

PHOTO: PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY: Improve your portrait-taking skills in this hands-on class. Camera techniques, composition, the use of studio and natural light, working with a model and more will be covered. Bring your camera with a charged battery and memory card to the first class. Prerequisite: Film or Digital SLR Camera or equivalent experience. Instructor: Dan Lovell. *Weekly on Thu., Apr. 9–Apr. 23, 6–9 p.m. Cost: $160/person; $144/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

PRINT: MIXED LEVEL MONOPRINT Students will hone their skills working with the press and learn how to incorporate dry point, collagraphs and embossing techniques into their printmaking, and techniques to layer images that create depth and master chine collé. Over 25 hours per week of open studio time is included for producing prints. Prerequisite: Some previous experience with printing suggested. Instructor: Susan Smereka. *Wed., Apr. 1–May 6, 6:30–9 p.m. Cost: $210/person; $189/BCA members. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington.*

PRINT: DRYPOINT PORTRAITS In this class, students will learn the basic fundamentals of portraiture in addition to learning to print from plates using the printing press. Using their own unique style, students will work from photographs and real life. After learning the basics, additional printing techniques to add color will be covered. No printmaking experience necessary. Instructor: Katie Loesel. *Weekly on Mon., Mar. 30–May 18, 6:30–9 p.m. Cost: $260/person; $252/BCA members. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington.*

SCHOOL BREAK: DIY GAMEA Join us for a day of fun and games! Make your own DIY board games and puzzles, create your own Mad Libs, build your own adventure stories and more. There will be time for group and individual projects and plenty of free play. All materials provided. Registration required. Instructors: Alissa Faber and Rachel Hooper. *Ages 6–12. Wed., Apr. 22, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. Cost: $85/person; $76.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

SCHOOL BREAK: DIY WONDERLAND Jump down the rabbit hole with us and create whimsical costumes, one-of-kind hats and headbands, wacky ties, edible art creations, and more. The day will include silly games and a mad hatter tea party. All materials provided. Registration required. *Ages 6–12.* Instructors: Alissa Faber and Rachel Hooper. *Wed., Mar. 27, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. Cost: $85/person; $76.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, Burlington.*

SILKSCREENING Torrey Valyou, local silkscreen legend and co-owner of New Duds, will introduce you to silkscreening and show you how to design and print T-shirts, posters, fine art and more. Cost includes over 25 hours per week of open studio time for practicing, use of studio chemicals, classwork and equipment. See detailed student materials list online. No experience necessary. *Thu., Apr. 2–May 21, 6–8:30 p.m. Cost: $280/person; $252/BCA members. Location: BCA Print Studio, 250 Main St., Burlington.*

TAKING ETSY TO THE NEXT LEVEL. Have you had an Etsy shop open for a while but traffic is slow? Etsy seller Laura Hale will guide you through driving traffic to your shop using Etsy's internal tools and creating your own online marketing methods. We'll cover treasuries, blog posts and comments integrating social media, refining listings for top search results and more! *Tue., Apr. 7, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Cost: $25/person; $22.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

TERRARIUMS Join artist Laura Hale and create your own custom-designed terrarium. You'll learn how to choose the right plants and create the right soil conditions for them to thrive. You'll leave with your own custom creation and care instructions for keeping it healthy and verdant. All materials provided. Registration required. *Thu., Apr. 2, 6:30–8 p.m. Cost: $28/person; $25.20/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

WATERCOLOR Learn how to paint with watercolor. This class will focus on observational painting from still life, figure, landscape and photos. Students will gain experience with composition, color theory, layering, light and shade. Class may move outdoors to paint en plein air on nice days. No experience necessary. Material list online. Instructor: Marc Nadel. *Wed., Apr. 1–May 20, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Cost: $224/person; $201.60/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*



YOUTH: DARKROOM PHOTO. Experiment in the darkroom and create one-of-a-kind images with light and objects in our black-and-white darkroom. All materials provided. Registration required. *Ages 8–12.* Instructor: Kristen Watson. *Sun., Apr. 4, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Cost: $25/person; $22.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Burlington.*

FINANCES WITHOUT FEAR: We'll go over the basics of how to keep track of what you earned and spent, how to prep for taxes, and how to plan for cash flow over the course of a year. No previous accounting experience is necessary, and those who are totally flummoxed and intimidated by financials are encouraged to attend. Instructor: Laura Hale. *Limit: 12. Tue., Apr. 21, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Cost: $25/person; $22.50/BCA members. Location: BCA Center, 135 Church St., Digital Media Lab, Burlington.*

business

INTRO TO SELF-EMPLOYMENT: Think you might want to start a business? Explore what a business might look like for you in this fun, supportive class. Brainstorm business ideas, determine what you need out of a business, reality filter business ideas, find resources for next steps. Join a community of your business-exploring peers! *Weekly on Thu., Apr. 2–23, 6–8*

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classes

THE FOLLOWING CLASS LISTINGS ARE PAID ADVERTISEMENTS. ANNOUNCE YOUR CLASS FOR AS LITTLE AS **$13.75/WEEK** (INCLUDES SIX PHOTOS AND UNLIMITED DESCRIPTION ONLINE). SUBMIT YOUR CLASS AD AT **SEVENDAYSVT.COM/POSTCLASS**

p.m. Cost: $125/8-hour workshop over 4 weeks. Location: Mercy Connections, 255 Champlain St., Burlington. Info: Merry Connections' Women's Small Business Program, Gwen Pokalo, 846-7338, gpokalo@mercyconnections.org, wsbp.org.

coaching

CAREER BURN-OUT: WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT. Get practical and creative ideas to identify the work you are meant to do, reduce stress, fatigue and health issues related to a mismatch between your values and career. Get a complimentary copy of the book *Go Forward Fearlessly* when you register. Led by Cornelia Ward, author and career mentor. *Mar. 25, 5-7 p.m. Free. Location: Online workshop. Call to register. Info: Cornelia, 864-2978.*

MINDFULNESS DEMYSTIFIED. Maybe you've heard of mindfulness and want to learn the basics. Or maybe you're familiar with the concepts and want help getting started with a practice. This class offers simple, straightforward instructions and practical tools that fit seamlessly into your everyday activities, helping you to approach your life with less stress and greater ease, awareness and fulfillment. *3 Thu. starting Apr. 9, 6:30-8 p.m. Cost: $85/3 90-minute classes. Location: Richardson Pl., 2 Church St., suite 2C, Burlington. Info: Mark Nash, 651-0999, marknashvt@gmail.com, marknashvt.com.*

craft

FEMMECHANICS. Learn to fix your bike. Female-identifying people learn bicycle maintenance and repair in a supportive environment. Students learn systems and parts of the bicycle and practice common repairs and adjustments on their own bikes. Taught by a female mechanic from Old Spokes Home. *3 Wed., Mar. 18-Apr. 1 or Apr. 15-29, 6-8 p.m. Cost: $95/3 3-hour classes; scholarships avail. Location: Bike Recycle Vermont, 864 Riverside Ave., Burlington. Info: Christine Hill, 339-223-0722, rhnstine@bikerecyclevt.org, bikerecyclevermont.org.*

INTRODUCTION TO BLACKSMITHING. Learn the fundamentals of forging mild steel. Introductory course to learn basic forging techniques using gas forge, coal forge, hammer and anvil, and other assorted tools. *3 Sat. for 3 hours, preferably mornings. Cost: $270/3 3-hour classes. Location: Water Gate Forge, 929 Keene Rd., South Walden. Info: James Teuscher, 563-2037, jamesteuscher@live.com.*



theshelburnecraftschool.org
985-3648

ADULT: BEGINNER WHEEL. Instructor: Rik Rolla. This course is great for beginners looking to learn the fundamentals of basic wheel-throwing techniques. You will learn how to center, throw, trim and glaze. After crafting your pottery on the wheel, Rik will guide you to create finished pieces for the electric oxidation kiln. You will leave with several functional pieces. *6 Tue., Apr. 28-Jun. 2, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost: $210/nonmembers, $192.50/members. Incl. $35 materials fee. Location: Shelburne Craft School, 64 Harbor Rd., Shelburne.*

ADULT: CLAY AND WHEEL. Instructor: Dasha Kalsa. *Breaking away from round. Are you tired of feeling like you are making the same-shaped pots over and over again? This class will take basic shapes thrown on the wheel and give you the hand building and finishing skills to make any shape you can think of! Techniques will include shaving, darting, faceting, fluting, rutting and slarking. 10 Sat., Apr. 18-Jun. 20, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Cost: $410/nonmembers, $372.50/members. Incl. $45 materials fee. Location: Shelburne Craft School, 64 Harbor Rd., Shelburne.*

ADULT: LANDSCAPE IN OIL. Instructor: Evelyn McFarlane. Drawing from nature is a basic skill and the foundation of good painting. This program is designed to develop the student's visual relationship with nature and translate it onto a canvas in paint. The goal will be an impressionistic but accurate painting using various comparative methods that will be taught to facilitate drawing, mixing colors and rendering forms. *8 Thu., Jan. 23-Mar. 19, 1-3:30 p.m. Cost: $290/nonmembers, $261/members. Location: Shelburne Craft School, 64 Harbor Rd., Shelburne.*

EXPERIMENTAL PAINTING. Instructor: Sage Turker Ketcham. This workshop is perfect for the very beginner but also the master painter. If you are stumped with how to break out of your process or not sure how to enter painting as a medium, Sage will guide you through four different techniques. You will experiment with house paints, varnishes, oil paint, floor lacquers, enamels, inks and more. Sage will cover paint chemistry, sanding, repetition and layering. *May 16-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: $115/person, member discount avail. Location: Shelburne Craft School, Shelburne.*

WATERCOLOR AT SHELBURNE FARMS. Join watercolor artist Joel Popadics for five days of painting, learning and being inspired by the beautiful landscapes of Shelburne Farms. Each day, there will be two brief painting demonstrations, with topics ranging from painting rows to handling the summer greens and Lake Champlain's light. Following the demonstrations, you will have the opportunity to paint and apply the concepts presented. *Jun. 1-5, Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: $675/person. Rooms at the Inn at Shelburne Farms are avail. at a discount for this program. Location: Shelburne Farms & Shelburne Craft School, Shelburne.*

culinary

SEASONAL CSA COOKING: WINTER. Basic introductory classes taught by amateur home cook Andrea Todd. Over a series of sessions you will be guided through a different kitchen technique for cooking and preserving winter vegetables, each week boiling, roasting, sauteing, freezing. Hands on learning. Come prepared to cook. Materials provided. *Tue., Mar. 10 & 17, 6-7 p.m. Cost: $20/1 hour class. Location: McClure Multigenerational Center, 241 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info: Andrea Todd, 865-9244, andreatodd77@yahoo.com.*

dance

DANCE STUDIO SALSALINA. Salsa classes, nightclub style, on-one and on-two, group and private, four levels. Beginner walk-in classes Wednesdays, 6 p.m., $13/person for one-hour class. No dance experience, partner or preregistration required. Just the desire to have fun! Drop in any time and prepare for an enjoyable workout. *Location: 266 Pine St., Burlington. Info: Victoria, 598-1077, info@salsalina.com.*

DSANTOS VT SALSA. Experience the fun and excitement of Burlington's eclectic dance community by learning salsa. Trained by world famous dancer Manuel Dos Santos, we teach you how to dance to the music and how to have a great time on the dance floor! There is no better time to start than now! Mon., evenings, beginner class, 7 P.m., intermediate, 8:15-9:15 p.m. *Cost, $10/1 hour class. Location: North End Studios, 294 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info: Tyler Crandall, 538-3204, trandalltyler@hotmail.com, dsantosvt.com.*

LEARN TO DANCE W/ A PARTNER!. Come alone or come with friends, but come out and learn to dance! Beginning classes repeat each month, but intermediate classes vary from month to month. As with all of our programs, everyone is encouraged to attend, and no partner is necessary. Private lessons also available. *Cost: $50/4-week class. Location: Champlain Club, 20 Crowley St., Burlington. Info: First Step Dance, 598-6757, kevin@firststepdance.com, firststepdance.com.*

ZUMBA CLASS IN THE SOUTH END. Have fun while getting fit! Zumba is a 60-minute dance workout combined with interval/resistance training. Enjoy an array of high-energy music including salsa, merengue, samba, chacha, soca, hip hop, belly dance and more. Songs will change every few weeks to keep class fresh. No previous Zumba or dance experience needed! *Weekly on Sat., 11 a.m.-noon. Cost: $14/class, class passes avail. Location: South End Studio, 696 Pine St., Burlington. Info: 540-0044.*

drumming

DJEMBE IN RURLINGTON!. Learn drumming techniques and music on West African drums! Burlington Beginners Djembe class is on Wed., 7-8:20 p.m. 3 week sessions start Apr. 22 & May 3. $53/3 weeks. $22 drop-in. Djembes are provided. Please register online or come directly to the first class! *Location: Taiko Sparx & Capitol City Grange, 208 Flynn Ave., suite 3G & 6G; 6612 Route 12, Burlington & Montpelier. Info: 338-4255, classes@burlingtontaiko.org, burlingtontaiko.org.*

TAIKO DRUMMING IN RURLINGTON!. Come study Japanese drumming with Stuart Paton of Burlington Taiko! Beginner/Recreational Classes on Tues., 5:30-6:20 p.m. Accelerated Taiko Program for Beginners on Mon., 7-8:20 p.m. Taiko Training Class for Beginners on Wed., 5:30-6:50 p.m. Kids and Parents Class on Tue., 4:30-5:20 p.m. New sessions start Apr. 20, 21 & 22. Register online or come directly to the first class! *Location: Taiko Space, 208 Flynn Ave., suite 3G, Burlington. Info: 999-4255, classes@burlingtontaiko.org, burlingtontaiko.org.*

fitness

FIRST STRIDES VERMONT. First Strides is a beginner 12-week program that will help you progress from the couch to walking or running at a pace that's right for you. Find self confidence you never imagined possible. Weekly meetings include a self paced group walk and/or run with supportive, experienced mentors, plus inspirational informative speakers. *Weekly on Wed., May 6-Jul. 22. Cost: $45/12-week program if preregistered online, $50 day of. Location: Community Park & Paths, behind Williston Central School, Williston. Info: First Strides Vermont, Kasie Enman, 238-0820, info@firststridesvermont.com, firststridesvermont.com.*

flynn arts



EXPLORING CONNECTIONS INNER OUTER CONNECTIVITY. The Exploring Connections workshop series uses movement and metaphor to explore the expressive body in corporating movement fundamentals as well as drawing and writing to explore the relationship between movement and personal expression. Our goal will be to facilitate a lively interplay between inner connectivity and outer expressivity to enrich your movement potential, change ineffective neuromuscular movement patterns and encourage new ways of moving and embodying your inner self. *Fri., Apr. 3, 5:45-7:45 p.m. Cost: $22/person. Location: Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St., Burlington. Info: 652-4548, flynnarts.org.*

CONTEMPORARY DANCE LOOKING DEEPER. These intensives designed to support and strengthen the skills and community of practicing contemporary dancers and dance-makers in our region. Each intensive will focus on different aspects of the skills at the core of strong and compelling performers and performances. Instructor: Susan Sgorbati. Adults & teens 16+. *Sun., Mar. 22, 1-4 p.m. Cost: $30/person. Location: Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, 153 Main St., Burlington. Info: 652-4548, flynnarts.org.*





gardening

COOL ANNUALS! If you're looking to add color to a garden container or a basket, annuals are the way to go. Learn about new varieties and types for sun and shade. Instructor: Charlie Nardozzi. Mar 28, 9:30 a.m.–11 a.m. Cost: $12.50/person. Location: Gardener's Supply, Burlington, 128 Intervale Rd., Burlington. Info: 660-3505.

EDIBLE FOREST GARDENS. Join Meghan Giroux from Vermont Edible Landscapes and learn how to create an edible forest garden. Discover how to design, establish and maintain ecosystems that mimic the structure and function of natural forests. Mar. 21, 9:30–11 a.m. Cost: $12.50/person. Location: Gardener's Supply, Burlington, 128 Intervale Rd., Burlington. Info: 660-3505.

GARDEN PLANTS W/ MEDICINAL INTEREST. Many plants do more than beautify a landscape. Learn the medicinal properties and growing and harvesting tips for plants such as angelica, baptisia, black cohosh, calamus, calendula, Californa poppy, echinacea, elderberry and more. Instructor: Heather Ivey. Mar. 28, 11:30–1 p.m. Cost: $12.50/person. Location: Gardener's Supply, Burlington, 128 Intervale Rd., Burlington. Info: 660-3505.

HANDS-ON GARDENING COURSE. Want to grow your own fresh vegetables but not sure where to start? Join the Community Teaching Garden, a hands-on, 22-week course for beginning gardeners. Scholarships available. More information and registration: vcgn.org/what-we-do/community-teaching-garden. Registration deadline: April 6. Twice weekly, May–Oct. Cost: $300/person and 22 weeks of instruction, garden space, seeds, plants, water, supplies, tools, resources & all the veggies you can grow. Location: Two Community Teaching Garden sites: Ethan Allen Homestead & the Intervale, Burlington. Info: Vermont Community Garden Network, Denise Quick, 861-4763, denise@vcgn.org, vcgn.org/what-we-do/community-teaching-garden.

herbs

HOMORING HERBAL TRAOITION 2015. Herbal Apprenticeship Program held on a horse farm. Herbal therapies, nutritional support, diet, detox, body systems, medicine making, plant identification, tea tasting, plant spirit medicine and animal communication, wild foods, field trips, iddology and women's, childrens, men's and animal health! Textbook & United Plant Saver membership included! Open to all! 1 Sat./mo. for 8 mos. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Cost: $900/person. Location: Horsetail Herbs, 134 Manley Rd., Milton. Info: Kelley Robie, 893-0521, htherbs@comcast.net, horsetailherbs.org.

VERMONT SCHOOL OF HERBAL STUDIES. Foundations of Herbalism Apprenticeship 2015 offers plant identification, wildcrafting, herb walks, tea formulation, aromatherapy tinctures, herbal oils and salves, first aid, materia medica, eludis and much more. Space limited. Certificate upon completion. 7 Sun., Apr. to Oct. Cost: $825/person. Location: Vermont School of Herbal Studies, Greensboro. Info: 533-2344.

WISDOM OF THE HERBS SCHOOL. Now interviewing for our eight month Wisdom of the Herbs 2015, a unique experiential program embracing the local herbaceous plants, trees and shrubs, holistic health and sustainable living skills, valuable tools for living on the Earth in these changing times. Apr. 25–26, May 23–24, Jun. 27–28, Jul. 25–26, Aug. 22–23, Sep. 26–27, Oct. 24–25 and Nov. 7–8, 2015. Tuition $1,750. VSAC non-degree grants available, please apply soon. Location: Wisdom of the Herbs School, Woodbury. Info: 456-8122, annie@wisdomoftheherbsschool.com, wisdomoftheherbsschool.com.

kids

INTERMEDIATE BALLET AGES 9-13. For children with two or more years of ballet experience. This class will continue to build technical skills, coordination and discipline while wedding on classical ballet choreography. More advanced barre exercises are introduced, as well as continued development of center floor work and large jumps across the room. Weekly on Wed., 6:50–7:50 p.m. Cost: $150/11-week class. Location: South End Studio, Burlington. Info: 540-0044.

language

SPANISH CLASSES BEGINNING SOON. Now's the time to sign up. Learn from a native speaker via small classes, individual instruction or student tutoring. You'll always be participating and speaking. Lesson packages for travelers. Also lessons for young children; they love it! Our ninth year. See our website or contact us for details. Beginning week of Mar. 30 for 10 weeks. Cost: $225/10 classes of 50+ mins. each. Location: Spanish In Waterbury Center, Waterbury Center. Info: 585-1025, spanishpacavos@gmail.com, spanishwaterburycenter.com.

martial arts

VERMONT BRAZILIAN JIU JITSU. Classes for men, women and children. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu enhances strength, flexibility, balance, coordination and cardio-respiratory fitness. Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu trains, builds and helps to instill courage and self confidence. We offer a legitimate Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu martial arts program in a friendly, safe and positive environment. Accepting no imitations. Learn from one of the world's best, Julio "Foca" Fernandez, CBJJ and IBJJF certified 6th Degree Black Belt, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu instructor under Carlson Gracie Sr. teaching in Vermont, born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil! A 5-time Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu National Featherweight Champion and 3-time Rio de Janeiro State Champion. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Mon.–Fri., 5–9 p.m. & Sat., 10 a.m.–1 p.m. First class is free. Location: Vermont Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, 55 Leroy Rd., Williston. Info: 660-4072, julio@bjjusa.com, vermontbjj.com.

massage

A SIAN BODYWORK THERAPY PROGRAM. This program teaches two forms of massage: Amma and Shiatsu. We will explore Oriental medicine theory and diagnosis as well as the body's meridian system, acupressure points, Yin Yang and 5 Element Theory. Additionally 100 hours of Western anatomy and physiology will be taught. VSAC nondegree grants now available. NCBTMB assigned school. Begins September 2015. Cost: $5,000/500 hour program. Location: Elements of Healing, 21 Essex Way, suite 109, Essex Jct. Info: Scott Moylan, 238-8160, elementsofhealing@verizon.net, elementsofhealing.net.

meditation

INTRODUCTION TO ZEN. This workshop is conducted by an ordained Zen Buddhist teacher. It focuses on the theory and meditation practices of Zen Buddhism. Preregistration required. Call for more info or register online. Mar. 21, 9 a.m.–1:15 p.m.; please arrive at 8:45 a.m. Cost: $30/half-day workshop, limited-time price. Location: Vermont Zen Center, 480 Thomas Rd., Shelburne. Info: 985-9746, across@crosscontext.net, vermontzen.org.

LEARN TO MEDITATE. Through the practice of sitting still and following your breath as it goes out and dissolves, you are connecting with your heart. By simply letting yourself be as you are, you develop genuine sympathy toward yourself. The Buddington Shambhala Center offers meditation as a path to discovering gentleness and wisdom. Shambhala Cafe (meditation and discussions) meets the first Sunday of each month, 9 a.m.–noon. An open house (Intro to the center, short dharma talk and socializing) is held on the third Friday of each month, 7–9 p.m. Instruction: Sun. mornings, 9 a.m.–noon or by appt. Sessions: Tue. & Thu., noon–1 p.m., & Mon.–Thu., 6–7 p.m. Location: Buddington Shambhala Center, 187 S. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info: 658-6795, burlingtonshambhala.org.

NEUROSCIENCE OF MINDFULNESS. Preregistration required. Matthew MacKinnon of MindfulnessMD.com, a doctor in training, guides this session on the art, science and practice of mindfulness. Learn mindfulness techniques and why they work at a biological level. Discover how an understanding of your brain and body can be used to deal with anxiety and stress. Sat., Mar. 21, 9:30–10 a.m.–1 p.m. Cost: $50/2.3 hour seminar (6 hours total). Location: Living Room Center for Positivity, 6 Railroad Ave., Essex Jct. Info: Matthew MacKinnon, 999-6137, mindfulnessmd.com@gmail.com, bit.ly/mindfulvt.

performing arts

AUDITIONS FOR THE VT MUSICAL THEATRE ACADEMY. The Vermont Musical Theatre Academy is open to students between the ages of 10 and 19 and will provide an integrated and comprehensive program for the development of speech, acting, singing technique, song interpretation, musical theater dance and audition preparation. For more information and to audition, please contact Sally Olson, managing director. Auditions: Mac 6 & 22. Spring session. Weekly on Sat., Apr. 4–May 30, 1–4 p.m. Summer Showcase session: Jul. 19–Jul. 31. Cost: $360/person. Location: Spotlight, Vermont, 50 San Remo Dr., S. Burlington. Info: Sally Olson, admin@billyfredvoicestudio.com, billyfredvoicestudio.com.

STORYTELLING WITH MARK STEIN. In this support-versix week workshop, storytellers will develop and sharpen their skills. Novice and experienced raconteurs will have the opportunity to work through the entire process, from selecting compelling material and constructing a balanced narrative, to effective, powerful delivery at performance time. 6 Sun., Apr. 5–May 10, 2 p.m.–4 p.m. Cost: $150/6 2-hour classes. Location: Spark Arts, 180 Flynn Ave., Burlington. Info: Spark Arts, Natalie Miller, 373-7007, natalie@sparkartsvt.com, sparkartsvt.com.

tai chi

SNAKE-STYLE TAI CHI CHUAN. The Yang Snake Style is a dynamic tai chi method that mobilizes the spine while stretching and strengthening the core body muscles. Practicing this ancient martial art increases strength, flexibility, vitality, peace of mind and martial skill. Beginner classes Sat. mornings & Wed. evenings. Call to view a class. Location: Bao Tak Fai Tai Chi Institute, 100 Church St., Burlington. Info: 864-7902, uptamjytaichi.org.

yoga

BURLINGTON HOT YOGA - TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT! Really different hot yoga with far-infrared heating panels. We offer creative, vinyasa style yoga classes featuring Prana Flow. Hot Yoga in a 93 degree studio with balanced humidity, accompanied by eclectic music in our newly remodeled studio. Come try this unique heat which has many healing benefits. Classes daily. Ankle to be warm on a cold day, a flowing practice, a cool stone meditation and a chilled orange scented towel to complete your spa yoga experience. Get hot, 2 for 1 offer. $15. Go to hotyogaburlington.vt.com. Location: North End Studio B, 234 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington. Info: 999-9363.

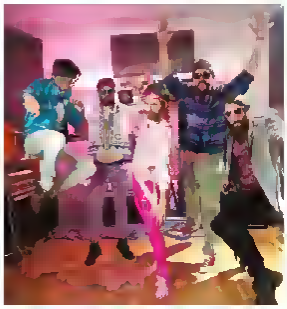
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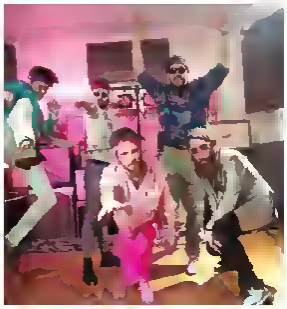
EVOLUTION YOGA. Evolution Yoga and Physical Therapy offers a variety of classes in a supportive atmosphere. Beginner, advanced, kids, babies, post- and pre-natal community classes and workshops. Vinyasa, Kripalu, Core Therapeutics and Alignment classes. Become part of our yoga community. You are welcome here. Cost: $15/class, $130/class card, $5-10/community classes. Location: Evolution Yoga, 20 Kilburn St., Burlington. Info: 864-9642, evolutionvt.com.

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MEN'S YOGA SERIES. Can't touch your toes? No problem. This class is for men who suspect a yoga class would be good for them but have never taken one, or found "regular" classes too off-putting. We'll start from the beginning, and build a strong physical and mental foundation for a long-term practice. V-be is supportive, focused but relaxed. Cost: $84/6 week class. Location: South End Studio, Burlington. Info: 540-0044.

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Let's Dance

The transformation of Madalla's Mark Daly

BY DAN BOLLES

Mark Daly's shirt is a little disappointing. There's nothing wrong with it, exactly. The muted gray cotton Henley is stylish enough, with blue sleeves pushed up to reveal a modest forearm tattoo. It's just kind of drab, is all, at least compared to the getup you might expect from the flamboyant and often garishly attired Madalla front man. But in his civvies, Daly is wholly unassuming. Seated in the shadows of a dimly lit booth, he's easy to overlook in a bustling Burlington coffee shop — and I almost do, nearly walking right past him. Here he's just another bearded twentysomething with thick-rimmed glasses, buddled over a notebook sipping fair-trade coffee.

Onstage, though, Daly is a dynamo, a whirling dervish of neon Spandex and goofy dance moves. Backed by his powerhouse Burlington pop band and typically sporting the loud, confetti-blasted blazer that has become a signature, the man is almost a caricature — or, at the very least, a character.

"When I first started this I was trying to be Tat Fader, who was this character I'd made up," reveals Daly, a wry grin creasing the corner of his mouth. "For a while I thought I'd be Tat Fader and not Mark Daly. But then the two sort of intersected and I didn't have to play a part all of the time. Which is good, because I imagine that could get tiresome."

Depending upon your taste for high-strung rock-and-roll theatrics, Daly's stagecraft could be seen simply as gleeful showmanship or an example of post-hipster irony gone awry. It may be a little of both. But there's another, equally likely possibility: The man seen bounding across local stages like the love child of Barry Gibb, Ziggy Stardust and a *Flashdance* extra is Mark Daly distilled to his essence.

"When you strip it down, it's really just me," he says.

Live, Madalla are composed of Daly and Burlington scene veterans Jer Coons, Eric Maier, Dan Ryan and Willoughby Morse, and often "extended family members" Haley Ahearn and Josh Weinstein. Each will be onstage — in all likelihood bedecked in headbands and neon Spandex — for "The Dance," the band's blowout release party for its debut record, also called *The Dance*, at Burlington's City Hall Auditorium this Friday. But the album, for the most part, really *is* just Daly.

Coons and Maier, the cofounders of Future Fields, the local label/recording studio that is releasing *The Dance*, engineered and produced the record. And each contributed some minimal degree of instrumental help. For example, Coons, who also performs with songwriter Caroline Rose and, along with Maier and rapper Learic, is in the hip-hop band the Precepts, plays exactly one note on the record. "But he played it really well!" says Maier.

Otherwise, every smooth, Miguel-like melodic turn, every pulverizing Arcade Fire percussion breakdown, every snarling guitar solo, synth orchestration and chorus of voices (see Prince, Radiohead, Fleet Foxes, respectively) is conceived of and executed by Daly. And despite an array of influences as colorful as his amazing Technicolor dream coat, it's all designed for a singular purpose. Daly lays it bare with a statement of intent on the first line of the album's first song, "International Lover."

"I'm here to make you moooooove," exhorts Daly over a swelling crush of beats both organic and synthetic. It's not the last time on the album his multilayered falsetto bears an eerie resemblance to Bon Iver's Justin Vernon. But the upbeat sentiment and danceable feel is more in line with another of Daly's influences: Justin Timberlake.

"I *love* JT," says Daly, beaming. But that's an admiration he was previously unable to indulge, at least through his own music.

Daly, 28, was formerly the lead singer of the Vermont indie rock band Chamberlin. In 2011 that band ranked among the state's few nationally known commodities, thanks in part to its association with Grace Potter & the Nocturnals. GPN guitarist Scott Tournet produced the group's debut, *Bitter Blood*, which was recorded in a remote Vermont cabin. He also brought Chamberlin on tour with GPN.

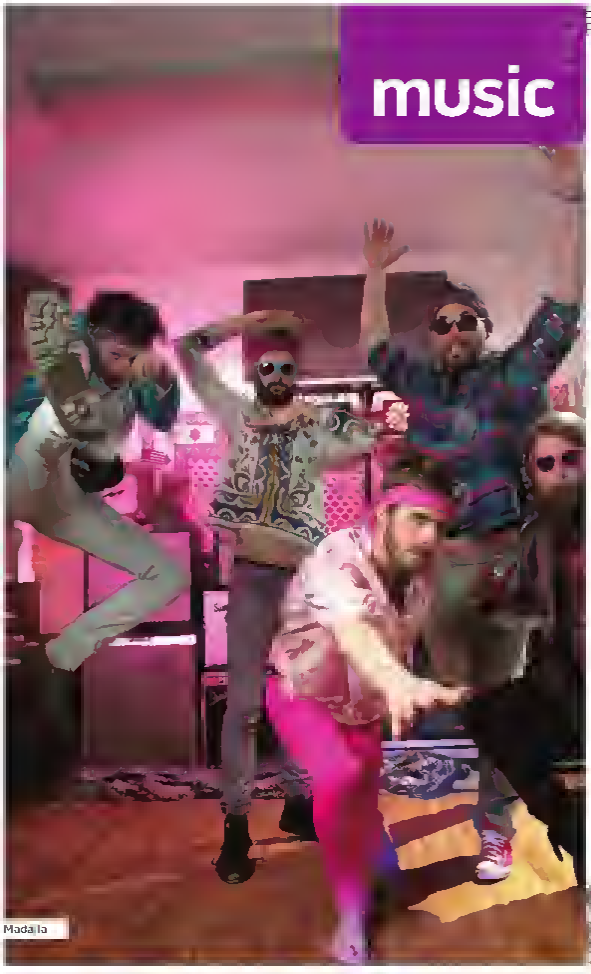
Before hardly anyone in the Green Mountains knew who they were, Chamberlin were playing to thousands at major venues such as the Fillmore in San Francisco. But the band's overnight success was a case of too much too soon. Almost as quickly as they ascended, Chamberlin fell apart. By late 2012, they had broken up.

"Who knows if it would have been better to lead up to all of that?" wonders Daly of Chamberlin's rapid rise and fall. "It started out so surreal and amazing, then harsh realities hit us."

In the aftermath of the breakup, Daly retreated again to a remote Vermont cabin — this one, coincidentally, just down the road from the Chamberlin cabin. He holed up for a month to write his way through his emotions. The session proved therapeutic, even though he never released the album he wrote.

Daly then lived for a short while with his dad in his hometown, Middlebury,

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Madalla

SOUNDbites

BY DAN BOLLES



Brass Balagan

Back to the Future

In case you couldn't tell from the story leading off this week's music section, I'm pretty excited about MADAILA and that band's new record, *The Dance*. But there's an important aspect of Madaila's story that I was only able to touch on — word counts are a bitch, my friends. So let's rectify that.

As mentioned, *The Dance* is being released under the banner of Future Fields. That's a new record label/recording studio helmed by ERIC MAIER and JER COONS, both of Madaila. That in itself isn't especially newsworthy, though Maier and Coons have already made some splashes in recording CAROLINE BOSE's 2014 breakout, *I Will Not Be Afraid*, as well as their own phenomenal, if somewhat overshadowed, collaboration with rapper and Burlington expat LEAEIC as the PRECEPTS, *This Is How it Must Be*. Both of those projects happened before the outfit was officially christened as Future Fields. But the point is that both men have some serious bona fides, even before we start discussing just how rad Madaila's new joint is. (Spoiler: It's really, really rad.)

What is newsworthy, and maybe groundbreaking, is what the Madaila record represents as an extension of FF. This is because the release introduces a new — though actually very old — model of sustaining the arts: patronage. (Fist bump, Medicis.)

The Dance is not only the first official Future Fields release. It's the first record unveiled as part of FF's "Patron Platform," which is a sort of evolutionary cousin to crowdfunding. But unlike vehicles such as Kickstarter, in which you pledge a certain amount of money with the expectation of rewards at some point in the future, the patron platform works more like a subscription service.

For recurring monthly fees of varying levels, you can access Madaila music and other goodies. Five dollars gains fans access to an exclusive blog where they can stream all officially released Madaila music as well as studio demos, behind-the-scenes videos and the like, updated weekly. The next step up is $15, which gets you the basic package, plus VIP access to Madaila shows, direct email access to the band and entry into a monthly house concert raffle. The gold club membership is the $30 Future Fields All-Access Pass, which scores you everything in the $15 package, but for every artist on the FF roster, as well as one night with MARK DALY, *Indecent Proposal*-style.

OK, I made up that last part. But the access to the entire FF roster thing is true. Granted, that's currently just Madaila and MARYSE SMITH — who's releasing her next album through the label in a month or so. But if the list of "affiliated artists" is any indication — LOWELL THOMPSON, KELLY RAVIN, ZAC CLARK, Caroline Rose, to name a few — that roster is likely to grow, especially if the patron platform proves successful.

"What the patron platform does is connect artists with supporters who value music in a deeper way than they have to," says Maier recently by phone. "This isn't telling people they're getting the best possible deal. It's asking people to place a value on the music. And we believe pretty strongly in the possibilities of that."

Maier continues by pointing out the one-time nature of crowdfunding, suggesting it's not a sustainable model.

"We want it to be less transactional than Kickstarter," he says of the patron platform. "Because by the time you've mailed off all of the hand-knit scarves you promised, you're pretty much barely breaking even and that money is gone until your next record."

True that. Also, my scarf was kind of itchy.

But will it work?

I honestly have no idea. It's certainly an intriguing concept. But it places a lot of faith in the idea that real fans will act like real fans instead of thieves, and financially support the art they love. In the age of file sharing and illegal downloads, that's a dicey proposition. So, will sweetening the pot with a consistent stream of new content — not to mention allowing patrons to rest easy in the knowledge they're supporting artists they believe in — tilt the scales in FF's favor?

Stay tuned.

BiteTorrent

Before we get into this next segment, I'm just going to come out and say that I have either personal or professional conflicts of interest with virtually everyone involved. So for the next couple of paragraphs, just assume I'm related to, friends with, coworkers of or am dating, have dated or am planning to date everyone I mention, OK? OK.

This Saturday afternoon, March 21, the Higher Ground Ballroom is hosting a rock show called "The Kids Are Alright." It's a benefit for the Integrated Arts Academy at H.O. Wheeler, which is the only arts-magnet elementary school in Vermont. Also, it's great. My

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LIVE culture
VERMONT ARTS NEWS + VIEWS

For up-to-the-minute news about the local music scene, follow **@DenBolles** on Twitter or read the Live Culture blog **sevendaysvt.com/liveculture**.

HIGHER GROUND
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Sa 28 ZUMBATHON:
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March 28 • 9:30–11:00am

Cool Annuals Charlie Nardozzi

If you're looking to add color to a garden, container or basket, annuals are the way to go. Learn about new varieties and types for sun and shade. Cost $12.50.

***March 28* • 11:30–1:00pm**

Garden Plants with Medicinal Interest Heather Irvine

Many plants do more then beautify a landscape. Learn the medicinal properties and growing and harvesting tips for plants such as Angelica, Baptisia, Black Cohosh, Calamus, Calendula, California Poppy, Echinacea, Elderberry, and more.

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Let's Dance « P54

which he calls a "strange transitional period." That's true beyond the *Beautiful Girls*-like nature of grudgingly going home. He began to transition musically, too, experimenting with many of the same danceable electronic elements that now characterize Madaila.

"Through all the vulnerability and uncertainty came the freedom to explore," Daly explains. "I was purely writing for myself, which felt really cool."

"He's always had a freakish knack for visualizing something and bringing it to life," says Maier of Daly. Maier, who was also a member of Chamberlin, grew up with Daly in Middlebury. The two were bandmates in a high school group called Pale Moon — a "classic Vermont jam band" named, says Daly, for its members' tendency to moon unsuspecting Middlebury College students. Maier says Daly has always had a certain, ahem, cheekiness about him. But with Madaila, he's truly explored that trait, musically speaking.

"This feels like the music he was designed to make," continues Maier. "Chamberlin was really cool music, but there was always a tension between who he was as a person and the themes of the music."

Where his writing with Chamberlin was often moody and downcast, Daly's new stuff had a markedly lighter, buoyant feel.

"I was using the material to lift me up and out of that rut," Daly says. "And it worked."

In early 2014, Daly reemerged as Plato Ears, a mostly solo act in which he — or maybe Tat Fader — played guitar and sang and pranced around in gaudy outfits over prerecorded beats.

> THROUGH ALL THE VULNERABILITY AND UNCERTAINTY CAME THE FREEDOM TO EXPLORE.
> MARK DALY, MADAILA

"It was definitely goofy," says Daly. "But I was like, 'Screw it. I'm just gonna be myself and have fun.'"

"Mark's a unique person," says Maier. "He's super upbeat. The theme of this music is so celebratory and up, which matches who he is as a person more than anything else he's made."

Plato Ears *was* goofy. But it was also a critical coming out for Daly. As importantly, it set the table for Madaila, eventually.

In August 2014, Daly unveiled DALY, a full-band version of Plato Ears, at Burlington music festival the Precipice. In short: They *killed* it. Following a bombastic set, DALY were the stars of the festival and instantly became one of the Queen City's buzziest bands. Then, during a successful October residency at Nectar's, DALY learned of Daley, a British singer who, weirdly enough, also specializes in falsetto R&B flecked indie pop. Ceding to the time-honored showbiz rule of "The band that's done singles with Gorillaz wins," and wanting to avoid confusion around their impending debut album, DALY became Madaila.

"It's obviously a play on my name," says Daly of the latest — and hopefully last — moniker. "But it doesn't really mean anything. To me, Madaila just sounds like a flower."

As spring approaches, and with a dynamic record and touring plans in hand, it seems Mark Daly and Madaila are ready to bloom.

INFO

Madaila play The Dance on Friday, March 20, 9 p.m., at City Hall Auditorium in Burlington. $15/20. *The Dance* is available at findfutirefields.com.

SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 65



Lowell Thompson

nephew ARLO is a student there, and he's a pretty awesome, wildly creative little dude. (See what I mean?) Part of that is due to parenting, sure — and unclesing, thank you. But part of it is the creative, nurturing environment he's exposed to every day, thanks to the progressive nature of the IAA. It makes my elementary school look like a gulag in comparison.

Now, I wouldn't send you to the show if there weren't some great music involved. And there is. Scheduled to appear are ROUGH FRANCIS, SWALE, COLIN & THE CLARYS, STEADY BETTY, PAPER CASTLES, JAMES KOCHALKA SUPERSTAR, the CLEARY BROS. BAND and BRASS BALAGAN.

Look at that lineup one more time. If this show was happening on a Friday night at Nectar's or the Monkey House, instead of a Saturday afternoon, it probably would have led this column. That's a veritable who's who of Burlington bands, many of whom have members with children in the IAA. Do you know what that means?

It means that the very future of Burlington music is your hands. No pressure, but if you don't go to this show to support IAA and Arlo grows up to be an asshole or something, I'm gonna hunt you down.



Zero Circle

Last but not least, bon voyage to the Vermont contingent heading down to South by Southwest in Austin, Texas, this week for the Big Heavy World Vermont Music Showcase. If you happen to be in the neighborhood, the show is at the Trophy Club on Saturday, March 21. Have a Lone Star for me.

Anyway, if you'll recall, last fall BHW founder JIM LOCKRIDGE lined up a showcase at the largest live music event on the planet. He tasked a panel of local music know-it-alls — including yours truly — with deciding who, among the Vermont bands who applied to SXSW, would best represent the state under the BHW banner. So we decided to send WAYLON SPEED, LOWELL THOMPSON, the DUPONT BROTHERS, ZERO CIRCLE, GET A GRIP and the SNAZ.

Regrettably, I'll not be attending SXSW this year — I think I'm still recovering from going a couple years back. But having been and survived the madness, here are a few pro tips:

1. Lone Star sucks and leaves brutish hangovers. But it's almost always the cheapest beer option, and is often free.

2. You won't see everything you want to. Make a list of the shows you definitely don't want to miss, but leave ample time to stumble around. You never know what you'll find.

3. Screw Fader Fort. The coolest stuff at SXSW happens in East Austin. You're welcome.

4. Breakfast tacos are your friend. (See: Lone Star, above.) ⑦

Listening In

A peek at what was on my iPad turntable, eight-track player, etc., this week.

MAMAILA, *The Dance*

GREAT LAKE SWIMMERS, *A Forest of Arms*

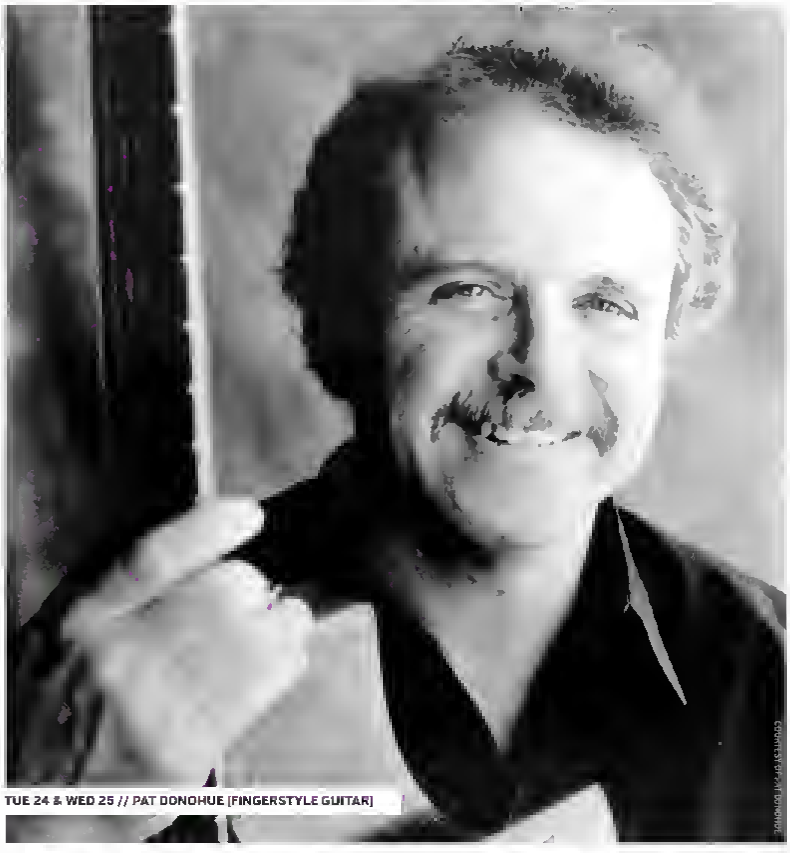
TOBIAS JESSO JR., *Goon*

JEFF THE BROTHERHOOD, *Wasted on the Dream*

LEE MOSES, *Time and Place*

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BARIKA 9PM & THE EDD 11PM
plus Apres Ski 4pm Dave Keller
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STARLINE RHYTHM BOYS 9PM
WITH BEN DONOVAN & THE CONGREGATION 11PM
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WED.18

burlington

HALFLOUNGE SPEAKEASY Aquatic Underground (house techno) 10 p.m. free

JP'S PUB Pub Quiz with Dave 7 p.m. free. Karaoke with Melody 10 p.m. free

JUNIPER Audrey Bernstein (jazz) 8 p.m. free

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Paul Asbell Trio (jazz) 7 p.m. free

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP Julian Chabot Jazz Trio 8 p.m., free.

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Open Mic with Andy Luga 9 p.m. free

NECTAR'S VT Comedy Club Presents 'What a Joke' Comedy Open Mic (standup comedy) 7 p.m. free. Balkun Brothers Canopy (blues rock) 9:30 p.m. free/$5 18+

OLDE NORTHENDER PUB The Red Newts (country blues, soul) 9 p.m., free

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE. Ben Kogan Duo 6 p.m. free. Ensamble V (jazz) 7 p.m. free. Irish Sessions 9 p.m. free.

RAO SQUARE Live Music. 7 p.m. free. DJ Jack Bandit (hip hop) 11 p.m. free

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (BURLINGTON) Josh Panda's Acoustic Soul Night 8 p.m. $5-10 donation

ZEN LOUNGE Kizomba with Deantos VT 7 p.m. free. ZensDay (top 40) 10 p.m. free/$5 18+

chittenden county

THE MONKEY HOUSE. About Time Vermont Band (jazz, rock) 8 p.m. $3

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. John Daly Trio (folk rock) 7 p.m. free.

barre/montpelier

BAGITOS BAGEL & BURRITO CAFÉ Papa GreyBeard (blues) 6 p.m. donation.

CHARLIE O'S WORLD FAMOUS DJ Crucible (metal) 10 p.m. free

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (MONTPELIER) Cajun Jam with Jay Ekis, Lee Blackwell, Alec Ellsworth & Katie Trautz. 6 p.m. $5-10 donation

SWEET MELISSA'S Wine Down with D. Davis (acoustic) 5 p.m. free. Open Blues Jam hosted by Jason Jack 8 p.m. free

stowe/smuggs area

THE BEE'S KNEES Heady Topper Happy Hour with David Langevin (piano) 5 p.m. free

MOOG'S PLACE Stefani Capizzi (folk) 8 p.m. free

PICCASSO PIZZERIA & LOUNGE Trivia Night. 7 p.m. free

middlebury area

CITY LIMITS Karaoke 9 p.m., free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LOUNGE & STAGE Trivia Night. 7 p.m. free

northeast kingdom

THE PARKER PIE CO. Trivia Night. 7 p.m. free

THE STAGE Open Mic. 6 p.m. free

outside vermont

MONOPOLE Open Mic 10 p.m. free

OLIVE RIDLEY'S So You Want to Be a DJ? 10 p.m. free

THU.19

burlington

BARDO BAKERY & PIZZA BARDO Marcie Hernandez (folk) 6 p.m. free. EmaLou (folk) 7:30 p.m. free

BENTO Classics Vinyl Clash (eclect c) 10 p.m., free

CHURCH & MAIN Cody Sargent Trio (jazz) 8 p.m. free.

CLUB METRONOME. UVM Ski & Snowboard Club Third Thursday Party 9 p.m. free.

DRINK BLINDaG Records Acoustic Sessions 5 p.m. free

FINNIGAN'S PUB Craig Mitchell (funk) 10 p.m. free

FRANNY O'S Karaoke 9 p.m. free

HALFLOUNGE SPEAKEASY Half & Half Comedy (standup) 8 p.m. free

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP Banners and Cranks (cranky show) 7 p.m. free

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Backwoods Boogie (rock) 9 p.m. free

NECTAR'S Trivia Mania 7 p.m. free. Bluegrass Thursday: Dan Johnson and the Expert Sidemen. Downfall Country 9:30 p.m., $2/5 18+

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE. Jazz Sessions with Julian Chabot 6:30 p.m. free. Cricket Blue (ghost folk) 7 p.m. free. Shane Hardiman Trio (jazz) 8:30 p.m. free. Soul Sessions with Grundlefunk. 10:30 p.m. $5

RED SQUARE. Starline Rhythm Boys (rockabilly) 6:30 p.m. free. DJ Jay Baron (hip-hop) 10 p.m., free

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB & WHISKEY ROOM Mashtadon (hip-hop) 10 p.m., free

SIGNAL KITCHEN Erin McKeown, Rachel Kies (singer songwriters) 7:30 p.m., $12/14 AA

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (BURLINGTON) Take Two (tango) 8 p.m. $5-10 donation

chittenden county

JAMES MOORA TAVERN John Daly Trio (folk rock) 6 p.m. free

JERICHO CAFÉ & TAVERN Irish Session 6:30 p.m. free

THE MONKEY HOUSE. Bless the Child (hip hop) 8:30 p.m. $3

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Jenni Johnson & Friends (jazz, blues) 7 p.m. free.

PENALTY BOX. Karaoke 8 p.m., free

barre/montpelier

NUTTY STEPN'S Sergio Torres (jazz) 7 p.m. free. Andrc Severance (jazz) 9 p.m. free

SWEET MELISSA'S BYOV Thursdays 3 p.m. free. Ben Kogan Band (rock) 7:30 p.m. free

WHAMMY BAR The Turning Stile (folk) 7 p.m. free.

stowe/smuggs area

THE BEE'S KNEES Mark Struhsacker (acoustic) 7:30 p.m. donation

MOOG'S PLACE. Open Mic 8 p.m. free

RUSTY NAIL. Apres Ski Seth Yacovone (blues) 4 p.m. free

SUSHI YOSHI (STOWE) Gabe Jarrett Trio (jazz) 4:30 p.m., free

middlebury area

CITY LIMITS Trivia Night. 7 p.m., free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LOUNGE & STAGE. 3rd Thursday Comedy Night. Ryan Kenyon (standup comedy) 7 p.m., free

DJ Dizzle (hip hop) 10 p.m. free.

northeast kingdom

THE STAGE. The Chills (singer songwriters) 7 p.m. free.

outside vermont

OLIVE RIDLEY'S Karaoke 9 p.m. free

FRI.20

burlington

BENTO Open Improvisation Jam 10 p.m. free

BLEU NORTHEAST SEAFOOD Gina & Jeff (acoustic) 8:30 p.m. free

CLUB METRONOME Back to the Future Friday (90s/2000s dance party) 9 p.m. $5

FINNIGAN'S PUB The High Breaks (surf) 10 p.m. free

JUNIPER Aaron Flinn (folk rock) 9 p.m. free

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP Francesca Blanchard (folk) 8 p.m. free

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB The Tenderbellies (hip-hop) 9 p.m. free

NECTAR'S Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 7 p.m. free

FRI.20 » P.70

REVIEW *this*

Hana Zara, *The North*

(SELF-RELEASED CD; DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)



On "Tatterhood," the closing track of her 2013 album of the same name, Burlington songwriter Hana Zara presents an alternate take on the classic fairy tale. Based on a children's story, also called "Tatterhood," that her father read to her as a girl, the folk tale centers on a heroine who is, as Zara puts it in the liner notes of that record, "not a beautiful princess, but a wild, barefooted, headstrong girl." That puckish, ragtag sensibility informed every aspect of Zara's last album, from her clumsy but endearing guitar playing to her blunt and often incisive lyricism.

Zara has little use for artificial societal conventions, especially those that confine. But her nonconformist nature should not be confused with apathy. Rather, it's a deep empathy that informs her worldview, coupled with a keen and caring eye that tenderly observes human frailties.

Zara's new album, *The North*, continues on the path she began bushwhacking on *Tatterhood*. As on that record, her writing is poignant and pointed. But it is also more refined, as is the album generally. While the record is still very much a solo effort, Zara has enlisted the help of some talented friends to accent and flesh out her otherwise spare folk songs. The result is a more assured and subtly diverse collection that, though slightly more polished, retains the tattered charm of her debut.

On album opener "Day of the Dead," Will Tobin's moody accordion shades and sometimes softens Zara's punchy acoustic guitar. The song is a lamentation, both an elegy to a fallen loved one and an examination of what it means to go on living without that person. "Well, I came back here for the living / I came back here for the love / For the idea of an ending, for the friendship and the drugs / I came back here for the fires that we lit to light us up / I came back here for the living, I came back here for the love," she sings with a simmering intensity that recalls a young Natalie Merchant.

Loss is a pervasive theme, making *The North* a darker work than its predecessor. This manifests in myriad ways beyond mere grief. Like anger, for one. "Science Fiction" is as pissed off as it is mournful. Here Zara bemoans losing an increasingly withdrawn loved one to unspoken demons. Propelled by Steve Brown's marching percussion and accented by lilting backing vocals and rolling Fender Rhodes tones, "The Territory" presents a more elegant but no less cutting edge.

Though characterized by emotional turmoil, *The North* is hardly oppressive. Like so many great albums rooted in sadness, Zara transforms uncertainty and grief into something beautiful and comforting. She doesn't wallow. Rather, she explores anguish with a curious heart. And what she finds is surprising gratitude.

"Thanks for loving me madly / Thanks for treating me right," she sings on the benedictory album closer "Megan's Song." Then, "I wish you could see me now / Cuz my hair has gotten longer / and my voice has gotten stronger / and I think you'd be proud."

Hana Zara celebrates the release of *The North* with an album release show at Radio Bean in Burlington this Sunday, March 22. The album is available at hanazaramusic.bandcamp.com.

DAN BOLLES

The Cop Outs, *The Cop Outs*

(SELF-RELEASED CD)



If you've still got a swollen head from St. Patrick's Day, you may want to dim the lights and pop an ibuprofen or three before pressing play on the self-titled debut EP from Morrisville's the Cop Outs. In the tradition of the Pogues, Flogging Molly and, most recently, the Dropkick Murphys, the quintet trades in a rambunctious fusion of traditional Irish music and punk rock made for whiskey-soaked nights at the pub. Actually, I take that first sentence back. If you're still hung over and cursing the patron saint of Ireland, throw down a Guinness and a shot of Jameson and suck it up, sissy.

As the band members themselves point out on the CD's second track, "Ireland," the Cop Outs ain't Irish. "We may not be from Ireland, but the whiskey, beer and soul are deep within," they sing in typically swaying shout-along Irish-punk fashion. While not quite as hard as the Dropkicks — the genre's modern standard-bearers — the famed Boston band is likely the most reasonably close comparison. Musically, the Cop Outs sometimes trend closer to the trad influences of the Pogues, with fiddler Darcy Cahill and multi-instrumentalist Dale Cahill often front and center and adding reeling Celtic flair. But the Cop Outs' front man, Jay Knecht, lacks the roguish charm of Shane MacGowan — certainly no crime there, and he'll probably live a lot longer because of it. Instead, he mostly favors a blunter punk approach.

The Cop Outs are, in essence, a bar band. But they're a wildly entertaining one. And despite its issues of cultural appropriation, veering on caricature, that are evident in certain tunes — the aforementioned "Ireland," for one — the band has a genuine affinity for the Emerald Isle. Consider its rousing take on the traditional reel "Road to Lisdoonvarna,' in which they ably meld punk snarl with Celtic roots.

The Cop Outs are also willing to lampoon stereotypes closer to home, rather than just playing up bloated Irish boilerplates, as on "Straight White Girl Wasted." Fueled by a sprightly and familiar fiddle line, the song eviscerates the scourge of obscenely drunk white girls. It's off color, sure. But it's also funny — especially if you've ever seen SWGWs in action.

This debut could have used an upgrade in the production department. It generally plays a little flat, which saps some of its urgency. Still, it's fun little EP. And it suggests the band is best experienced at your favorite dive, sloshing pints and shouting along in the company of friends.

The Cop Outs play the Tamarack Grill at Burke Mountain this Friday, March 20, and Charlie O's World Famous in Montpelier this Saturday, March 21.

DAN BOLLES

GET YOUR MUSIC REVIEWED: IF YOU'RE AN INDEPENDENT ARTIST OR BAND MAKING MUSIC IN VT, SEND YOUR CD TO US: DAN BOLLES C/O SEVEN DAYS, 255 SO. CHAMPLAIN ST. STE 5, BURLINGTON, VT 05401

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THU.19 // ERIN MCKEOWN (SINGER-SONGWRITER)

That's Smarts

ERIN MCKEOWN is best known as a prolific and progressive songwriter who is unafraid to poke and prod the boundaries of folk and pop — we're especially partial to her 2011 record *F*ck That! Erin McKeown's Anti-Holiday Album*. The Brown grad is as passionate about social activism as she is about music. She's a member of the Future of Music Coalition, was a fellow at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society, and recently was a blogger and host at WNYC New York Public Radio. And, much like her music, her take on hot-button cultural issues is smart, engaging and wryly insightful. McKeown plays Signal Kitchen in Burlington on Thursday, March 19, with local indie-folk songwriter RACHEL RIES.

FRI.20 « P.68

Sophrstafunk, Revibe (hip-hop funk) 9 p.m. $7

BAOBAB BEAN COFFEEHOUSE
Friday Morning Sing-Along with Linda Bassick & Friends (kids music) 11 a.m. free **Penn Johnson** (singer-songwriter) 7 p.m. free **Town Meeting** (indie folk) 8 p.m. free **Milton Busker and the Grim Work** (folk) 9 p.m., free **Tar Iguana** (jam) 10-50 p.m. free **Banke** (ethereal dubscape) midnight free

RED SQUARE. John Daly Trio (folk rock) 4 p.m., free **Close to Nowhere** (rock) 7 p.m., $5 **OJ Craig Mitchell** (house) 11 p.m. $5

RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM. DJ Con Yay (EDM) 9 p.m. $5

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB & WHISKEY BOOM. Supersaunds DJ (top 40) 10 p.m. free

RUBEN JAMES. DJ CreB (hip hop) 10 p.m. free

ZEN LOUNGE. Jah Red (Latin) 8 p.m. $5 **O Jay Baron** (hip hop) 11 p.m. $5

chittenden county

BACKSTAGE PUB. Acoustic Happy Hour 5 p.m. free **Karaoke with Jenny Red** 9 p.m. free

HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE. Haiti High 2015. A House on Fire (rock) 7 p.m. $50. AA

JAMES MOORE TAVERN. The Woodoggies (country rock) 8 p.m. free

THE MONKEY HOUSE. About Time. Vermont Band (funk jazz) 4 p.m. free **Brevacado. Stone Blossom** (rock) 8:30 p.m. $5

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Leno Young & Cheney (acoustic rock) 5 p.m. free. **Radio Flyer** (rock) 9 p.m. free.

barre/montpelier

BAGITOS BAGEL & BURRITO CAFE. Lane Gibson (indie rock folk) 6 p.m. donation

CHARLIE-O'S WORLD FAMOUS. Abby Jenne (rock) 7 p.m. free **Green Mountain Playboys** (Cajun) 10 p.m. free

NUTTY STEIN'S. Raull Fernandez (Latin jazz) 7 p.m. free **Latin Friday with Raull Fernandez & Friends.** 7 p.m. free

POSITIVE PIE (MONTPELIER). Saulstice (reggae) 10 p.m. $5

SWEET MELISSA'S. Honky Tonk Happy Hour with Mark LeGrand 5 p.m. free **Small Change** (Tom Waits tribute) 9 p.m. free

WHAMMY BAR. Sara Grace (soul) 7 p.m. free.

stowe/smuggs area

MATTERNORN. Slant Sixx (rock) 9 p.m. $5

MOOG'S PLACE. Abby Sherman (folk) 6 p.m. free **Dave Keller Band** (soul blues) 5 p.m. free

RIMROCK'S MOUNTAIN TAVERN. OJ Rekken #FridayNightFrequencies (hip hop) 10 p.m. free

RUSTY NAIL. The Tenderbellies (bluesgrass) 4 p.m., free **Josh Panda and the Halversan Boys** (soul rock) 9 p.m. $8

middlebury area

CITY LIMITS. City Limits Dance Party with Tap Hat Entertainment (Top 40) 9:30 p.m., free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LOUNGE & STAGE. DJ Bimie (hip hop) 10 p.m. free

rutland area

HOP N MOOSE BREWING COMPANY. Ryan Fuller (acoustic) 7:30 p.m., free

northeast kingdom

PARKER PIE WINGS. Electric Sorcery (rock) 8 p.m. $5

PHAT RATS TAVERN. Killinit Karaoke with DJ Juiced. 9:30 p.m. free

TAMARACK GRILL. The Cop Outs (Celtic punk) 9 p.m. free.

THE STAGE. Rachel Laggins (singer songwriter) 6 p.m., free **James Gingue** (singer songwriter) 8 p.m. free **Karaoke** 8 p.m. free

outside vermont

MONOPOLE. Soul Junction 10 p.m. free

MONOPOLE DOWNSTAIRS. Happy Hour Tunes & Trivia with Gary Peacock. 5 p.m. free

SAT.21

burlington

ARTSRIOT. Chard Hallistar Band (folk rock) 7:30 p.m. $12/15

BENTO. Selah Sounds 10 p.m. free

BLEU NORTHERST SERFOOD. Peter Krag (jazz) 8:30 p.m. free

CLUB METRONOME. Kalm and Myles. Jacqui Lee. Anjali (rock) 6 p.m. $20/25 AA **Rel roname with DJ Fattie B** (80s dance party) 9 p.m. free/$5

FRANNY O'S. Karaoke 9 p.m., free

JP'S PUB. Karaoke with Megan 10 p.m. free

JUNIPER. Great Western (alt-country) 9 p.m. free.

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB. Donna Thunders and the Storm (country) 9 p.m., free

NECTAR'S. Matt Turk (singer songwriter) 7 p.m., free **Grippo Funk Band. DJ Rekkon** 9 p.m. $7

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE. Acoustic Brunch with Paul Boffa & April Caspari noon free **Secret Heliotropes** (avant folk) 7 p.m. free **Matt Durfee** (acoustic rock) 8 p.m. free **Doctor Sailor** (indie folk) 9 p.m., free **The Red Newts** (country blues) 10:50 p.m., free. **Dan Ryan Express** (funky jazz) midnight, free

RED SQUARE. The Full Cleveland (rock) 7 p.m. $5 **Mashladun** (hip-hop) 11 p.m. $5.

RED SQUARE BLUE ROOM. DJ Raul 6 p.m. $5 **DJ Reign One** (EDM) 11 p.m. $5

RUBEN JAMES. Craig Mitchell (house) 10 p.m. free

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (BURLINGTON). Weak Signal Broadcast Service (rock) 8 p.m. $5-10 donation

ZEN LOUNGE. Open Mic with Steve Hartmann 7 p.m. $10 donation **DJ Alask & Guests** (EDM top 40) 10 p.m. $5

chittenden county

BACKSTAGE PUB. Slideshow Bob (rock) 9 p.m. free.

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM. The Kids Are Alright (rock) 12:30 p.m. $5/7/10/12. AA **BoomBox, Mikey Thunder** (electronic) 9:30 p.m. $15/20 AA

HIGHER GROUND SHOWCASE LOUNGE. A Live One. Explaining the Music of Phish 9 p.m. $9/12 AA.

THE MONKEY HOUSE. WW Presents. Lower Dens. Paper Castles. Sunatirene (indie) 8 p.m. $10

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. The Benoits (Vermonticana) 5 p.m., free **Sticks & Stones** (rock) 9 p.m. free

VENUE NIGHTCLUB. Saturday Night Mixdown with DJ Dakota & Jon Demus 10 p.m., $5 18+

barre/montpelier

BAGITOS BABEL & BURRITO CAFE. Irish Session. 2 p.m. donation **Lefty Unger** (blues) 6 p.m. donation

CHARLIE-O'S WORLD FAMOUS. Broken String Band (bluegrass) 7 p.m. free **The Cop Outs** (Celtic punk) 10 p.m. free

NORTH BRANCH CAFE. Michelle Rodriguez (singer songwriter) 7:30 p.m. free.

POSITIVE PIE (MONTPELIER). House Shuffle Dance Party 10 p.m. free

SWEET MELISSA'S. Penny Arcade (folk) 5 p.m. free **Red Hot Juba** (cosmic Americana) 9 p.m. $5

WHAMMY BAR. Piper's Den (Irish) 7 p.m. free

stowe/smuggs area

THE BEE'S KNEES. Brian Gatch (acoustic) 7:30 p.m. donation

MATTERNORN. Nerbak Brothers (blues) 4 p.m. $3 **Joe Moore Band** (blues) 9 p.m. $5

MOOG'S PLACE. Live Music. 9 p.m. free

RUSTY NAIL. Apres Ski. Dave Keller (soul blues) 4 p.m. free **Banke. the Cold** (ethereal dubscape) 9 p.m. $8

middlebury area

AMERICAN LEGION POST 14. Hot Neon Magic (80s new wave) 9 p.m. $15

CITY LIMITS. City Limits Dance Party with DJ Carl (top 40) 9:30 p.m. free

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LOUNGE & STAGE. Jam Man Entertainment (dance party) 10 p.m. free

rutland area

HOP N MOOSE BREWING COMPANY Chris Palluto (acoustic) 7:30 p.m. free

northeast kingdom

THE PARKER PIE CO. Tribute Night: Songs of Social Justice 8 p.m. $5

THE BEAR DEN AT BURKE MOUNTAIN Sophistafunk (funk) 4 p.m. free

THE STAGE Michael Hahn (singer songwriter) 6 p.m. free. Hornbeam (Americana) 8 p.m., free

outside vermont

MONOPOLE. Funkwagon (funk) 10 p.m. free.

SUN.22

burlington

FRANNY O'S Kyle Stevens' Happiest Hour of Music (singer songwriter) 7 p.m., free. Vermont's Next Star 8 p.m. free

NECTAR'S Mi Tard Reggae Night with DJs Big Dog and Oemus 9 p.m. $3

OLDE NORTHENDER PUB Open Mic 7 p.m., free.

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE Folk Brunch with Britt Kusserow 11 a.m., free. Downfall Country with Andrew Stearns & Shay Gestal 1 p.m. free. Jeremy Gilchrist (singer songwriter) 7 p.m. free Hana Zara (folk) 8 p.m., free. Aria Cristafaro (contemporary folk) 9 p.m. free. Heidemann & Heidemann & Blevin Blectum (avant garde) 9 p.m. free. Against All Odds (pop punk) 10:30 p.m., free

THE SKINNY PANEAKE (BURLINGTON) Bluegrass Brunch Scramble noon $5-10 donation. Spark Open Improv Jam & Standup Comedy 7 p.m. $5-10 donation

chittenden county

BACKSTAGE PUB Karaoke/Open Mic 8 p.m., free.

PENALTY BOX Trivia With a Twist, 4 p.m. free

barre/montpelier

BAGITOS BAGEL & BURRITO CAFÉ. Two Cents in the Till (folk) 1 p.m. donation. Stefani Caprizzi (singer songwriter) 6 p.m. donation

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (MONTPELIER) Pete's Posse (traditional folk) 5:30 p.m. $5-10 donation.

stowe/smuggs area

THE BEE'S KNEES Howard Ring Guitar Brunch 11 a.m. donation

MOOG'S PLACE: John Wilson & Friends (folk) noon free

northeast kingdom

THE STAGE Open Mic 5 p.m. free.

MON.23

burlington

FRANNY O'S Standup Comedy Cage Match, 8 p.m. free

NALFLOUNGE SPEAKEASY Family Night (rock) 10:30 p.m., free.

JP'S PUB Dance Video Request Night with Melody 10 p.m. free

JUNIPER. Trivia Night, 7 p.m., free

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Karaoke 9 p.m. free.

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE Spencer Goddard (folk) 7 p.m. free. Gregory McKillop & Jean Smith (folk, emo) 8:30 p.m. free. Latin Sessions with Mal Maiz (cumbia) 10 p.m., free

THE SKINNY PANEAKE (BURLINGTON) Kidz Music with Raphael 11:30 a.m. $3 donation. The Burly AMA Slam (open mic, talent contest) 7 p.m. free

chittenden county

THE MONKEY HOUSE. A Wilhelm Scream, As We Were, Uppercut (punk) 8 p.m. $10/12

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Open Mic with Wylie 7 p.m., free.

stowe/smuggs area

MOOG'S PLACE Seth Yacovone (solo acoustic blues) 7 p.m. free.

northeast kingdom

PHAT KAT'S TAVERN Jay Natola (solo guitar) 9 p.m., free

outside vermont

OLIVE RIDLEY'S Karaoke with DJ Dana Barry 9 p.m., free

TUE.24

burlington

CLUB METRONOME Dead Set with Cats Under the Stars (Grateful Dead tribute) 9 p.m. free/$5

HALFLOUNGE SPEAKEASY DJ Tricky Pat & Guests (80s) 10 p.m. free

JP'S PUB Open Mic with Kyle 9 p.m. free

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ Will Patton (jazz) 7 p.m., free

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP Andy K's Specialised Experience (jazz) 8 p.m. free

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB Busk & Rye (rock) 9 p.m. free

NECTAR'S Gubbulidis (jam) 8 p.m. free/$5 18+ Elephant, Doctar Rick (jam, funk) 9 p.m. free

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE Stephen Callahan Trio (jazz) 6:30 p.m. free. Thea Wren (soul blues) 8 p.m. free. Honky Tonk Tuesday with Brett Hughes & Friends 10 p.m. $3

RED SQUARE Funkwagon (funk) 7 p.m. free. Craig Mitchell (house) 10 p.m. free

ZEN LOUNGE Killed It Karaoke 9 p.m. free.

chittenden county

GOOD TIMES CAFÉ. Pat Donahue (fingerstyle guitar) 8:30 p.m. $25

HIGHER GROUND BALLROOM Blackberry Smoke, the Temperance Movement, Leon Virgil Bowers (rock) 7:30 p.m. $20/22 AA

THE MONKEY HOUSE. Cult Leader, Old Wounds, Vultures of Cult (rock) 7:30 p.m., $5. 18+

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. Trivia Night, 7 p.m., free

barre/montpelier

CHARLIE-O'S WORLD FAMOUS Karaoke 8 p.m. free.

SOUTH SIDE TAVERN Open Mic with John Lackard 9 p.m. free.

SWEET MELISSA'S Jason Mallary (folk) 5 p.m., free

stowe/smuggs area

MOOG'S PLACE Jason Wedlack (rock) 7:30 p.m. free

middlebury area

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LOUNGE & STAGE Karaoke with Roots Entertainment, 9 p.m. free

WED.25

burlington

CLUB METRONOME The Dalla Party, Ler Stevens and More (hip-hop) 9 p.m., $1/5 18+

JP'S PUB Pub Quiz with Dave 7 p.m., free

Karaoke with Melody 10 p.m. free

JUNIPER Ray Vega Quintet (jazz) 8 p.m., free

WED 25 » P72

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THE University of Vermont HEALTH NETWORK
Central Vermont Medical Center



SAT 21 // LOWER DENS (INDIE ROCK)

courtesy of the artist

Great Escape On their forthcoming album, *Escape From Evil*, Baltimore's **LOWER DENS** refine and expand the jagged, guitar-centric textures of their two previous records. The album's lead single, "To Die in LA," is warm and cinematic but laced with a gloomy undercurrent of melancholia — much like Los Angeles itself, really. But amid that smoggy uncertainty, a buoyant sense of hope and optimism emerges, given life in the dusky, sweet tones of lead singer Jana Hunter. Touring in advance of their new album, Lower Dens play the Monkey House in Winooski on Saturday, March 21, with **SUNATHENC** and local's **PAPER CASTLES**.

WED 25 « P71

LEUNIG'S BISTRO & CAFÉ. The **FOHB Sessions** (jazz). 7 p.m. free.

LIGHT CLUB LAMP SHOP. **Julian Chabot Jazz Trio.** 8 p.m. free.

MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB. **Open Mic with Andy Luga.** 9 p.m. free.

NECTAR'S. **VT Comedy Club Presents: What a Joke! Comedy Open Mic** (standup comedy). 7 p.m. free. **Great Western** (folk, rock). 9:30 p.m. free/$5. 18+.

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE. **Tenzin Chopak** (progressive folk). 6 p.m. free. **Lotango** (tango). 7:30 p.m. free. **Irish Sessions.** 9 p.m. free.

RED SQUARE. **The Tenderbellies** (bluegrass). 7 p.m. free. **DJ Jack Ramiit** (hip hop). 11 p.m. free.

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (BURLINGTON). **Josh Panda's Acoustic Soul Night.** 8 p.m. $5-10 donation.

SWITCHBACK BREWING COMPANY. **Rick Cusick** (singer-songwriter). 5:30 p.m. free.

ZEN LOUNGE. **Kizomba with Osantas VT.** 7 p.m. free. **ZensDay** (top 40). 10 p.m. free/$5. 18+.

chittenden county

GOOD TIMES CAFÉ. **Pat Donahue** (fingerstyle guitar). 8:30 p.m., $25.

JERICHO CAFE & TAVERN. **Bluegrass Session.** 5:30 p.m. free.

THE MONKEY HOUSE. **About Time Vermont Band** (funk, jazz). 8:30 p.m. free/$3. 18+.

ON TAP BAR & GRILL. **Blues Jam with the Collin Craig Trio.** 7 p.m. free.

barre/montpelier

RAGITOS BAGEL & BURRITO CAFE. **Alice et Adam, Autumn Furtak-Cole** (folk). 6 p.m. donation.

THE SKINNY PANCAKE (MONTPELIER). **Cajun Jam with Jay Ekis, Lee Blackwell, Alec Ellsworth & Katie Trautz.** 6 p.m., $5-10 donation.

SWEET MELISSA'S. **Wine Down with D. Davis** (acoustic). 5 p.m. free. **Dan Zura** (folk). 8 p.m., free.

stowe/smuggs area

THE BEE'S KNEES. **Heady Topper Happy Hour with David Langevin** (piano). 5 p.m. free.

MOOG'S PLACE. **Chickweed** (rock). 8 p.m. free.

PIECASSO PIZZERIA & LOUNGE. **Trivia Night.** 7 p.m. free.

middlebury area

CITY LIMITS. **Karaoke.** 9 p.m. free.

TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LOUNGE & STAGE. **Trivia Night.** 7 p.m. free.

northeast kingdom

THE PARKER PIE CO. **Trivia Night.** 7 p.m., free.

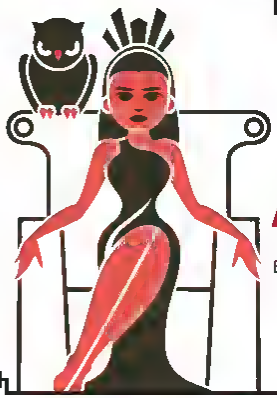
THE STAGE. **Open Mic.** 6 p.m. free.

outside vermont

MONOPOLE. **Open Mic.** 10 p.m. free.

OLIVE RIDLEY'S. **So You Want to Be a DJ?** 10 p.m., free. ⑦

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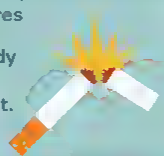
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AUGUST FIRST, 149 S. Champlain St., Burlington, 540-0050

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BLEU NORTHEAST SEAFOOD, 25 Cherry St., Burlington, 854-4700

BREAKWATER CAFÉ, 1 King St., Burlington 658-6276

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THE DAILY PLANET, 15 Center St., Burlington 862-9647

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NEETAR'S, 188 Main St., Burlington 658-4771

PIZZA BARRIO, 203 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington 863-8276

RADIO BEAN COFFEEHOUSE, 8 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington 660-9346

RASPUTIN'S, 163 Church St., Burlington 864-9324

RED SQUARE, 136 Church St., Burlington 859-8809

RÍ RÁ IRISH PUB, 123 Church St., Burlington 860-9401

RUBEN JAMES, 159 Main St., Burlington, 864-0744

SIGNAL KITCHEN, 71 Main St., Burlington 399-2537

THE SKINNY PANCAKE, 60 Lake St., Burlington 540-0188

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ZEN LOUNGE, 165 Church St., Burlington, 399-2645

CHITTENDEN COUNTY

BAKESTAGE PUB, 60 Pearl St., Essex Jct., 878-5464

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HIGHER GROUND, 1214 Williston Rd., S. Burlington 652-0777

HINESBURGH PUB LIC HOUSE, 10516 Vt. 116 #6A, Hinesburg 482-5500

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MONTY'S OLD BRICK TAVERN, 7521 Williston Rd., Williston 316-4262

OAK 45, 45 Main St., Winooski 448-3740

O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB, 348 Main St., Winooski, 558-4678

ON TAP RAW GRILL, 4 Park St., Essex Jct., 878-5505

PARK PLACE TAVERN, 58 Park St., Essex Jct., 878-5015

PENALTY BOX, 127 Porter's Point Rd., Colchester, 865-2065

ROZZI'S LAKESHORE TAVERN, 1022 W. Lakeshore Dr., Colchester, 863-2542

SHELBURNE VINEYARD, 6308 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 985-8222

VENUE NIGHTCLUB, 5 Market St., S. Burlington, 538-1057

BARRE/MONTPELIER

AGAVE AGAVE & BURRITO CAFÉ, 28 Main St., Montpelier, 229-9212

CAPITAL GROUNDS CAFÉ, 27 State St., Montpelier, 223-7800

CHARLIE-O'S WORLD FAMOUS, 70 Main St., Montpelier, 223-5620

ESPRESSO BUENO, 248 N. Main St., Barre, 479-0896

GREEN MOUNTAIN TAVERN, 10 Keith Ave., Barre, 522-2955

RUSTO'S, 26 Prospect St., Barre, 476-7919

KISMET, 52 State St., Montpelier, 225-8646

MULLIGAN'S IRISH PUB, 9 Maple Ave., Barre, 479-5545

NORTH BRANCH CAFÉ, 41 State St., Montpelier, 552-8105

NUTTY STEPH'S, 961C Rt. 2, Middlesex, 225-2080

POSITIVE PIE, 20 State St., Montpelier, 223-0453

RED HEN BAKERY + CAFÉ, 961 US Route 2, Middlesex, 223-5200

THE SKINNY PANCAKE, 89 Main St., Montpelier, 262-2253

SOUTH SIDE TAVERN, 107 S. Main St., Barre, 476-3637

SWEET MELISSA'S, 4 Langdon St., Montpelier, 225-6012

VERMONT THRUSH RESTAURANT, 107 State St., Montpelier, 225-6166

WHAMMY BAR, 51 W. County Rd., Calais, 229-4328

STOWE/SMUGGS AREA

BEES KNEES, 82 Lower Main St., Morrisville, 888-7865

ELAINE'S RESTAURANT & BAR, 41 Main St., Hardwick, 472-7055

MATTERHORN, 4959 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-8191

MOOSE'S PLACE, Portland St., Morrisville, 851-8225

PICCASSO, 849 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-4411

RIMROCK'S MOUNTAIN TAVERN, 394 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-9585

THE RUSTY NAIL, 1190 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-6245

SUSHI YOSHI, 1128 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-4155

SWEET CRUNCH BAKESHOP, 246 Main St., Hyde Park, 888-4687

VERMONT ALE HOUSE, 294 Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-6253

MAD RIVER VALLEY/WATERBURY

BIG PICTURE THEATER & CAFÉ, 48 Carroll Rd., Waitsfield, 496-8594

THE CENTER BAKERY & CAFÉ, 2007 Guptil Rd., Waterbury Center, 244-7500

EDEN HOUSE BBQ AND PUB, 1675 Rte. 2, Waterbury, 244-8400

CORK WINE BAR, 1 Stowe St., Waterbury, 882-8227

HOSTEL TEVERE, 203 Powderhound Rd., Warren, 496-9222

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THE RESERVOIR RESTAURANT & TAP ROOM, 15 Main St., Waterbury, 244-7827

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51 MAIN AT THE BRIDGE, 51 Main St., Middlebury, 388-8200

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CITY LIMITS, 14 Greene St., Vergennes, 877-6918

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HOP'N MOOSE BREWERY CO., 41 Center St., Rutland, 775-7053

PICKLE BARREL NIGHTCLUB, Killington Rd., Killington, 422-5055

CHAMPLAIN ISLANDS/NORTHWEST

EHOW! NELLA, 215 N. Main St., St. Albans, 524-1405

SNOW SHOE LODGE & PUB, 15 Main St., Montgomery Center, 326-4456

UPPER VALLEY

BREAKING GROUNDS, 245 Main St., Bethel, 392-4222

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BROWN'S MARKET BISTRO, 1618 Scott Highway, Groton, 584-4124

MUSE BOX, 147 Creek Rd., Craftsbury, 586-7533

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PHAT KATS TAVERN, 101 Depot St., Lyndonville, 626-3064

THE PUB OUTBACK, 482 Vt. 114, East Burke, 626-1166

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TAMARACK GRILL, 225 Shelburne Lodge Rd., East Burke, 626-7590

OUTSIDE VERMONT

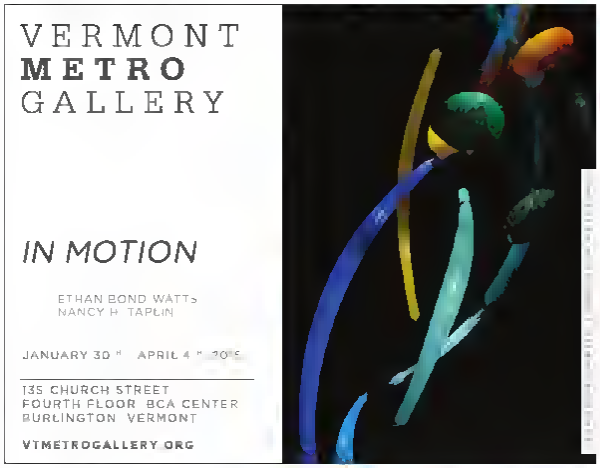
MONOPOLE 7, 7 Protection Ave., Plattsburgh, NY, 518-565-2222

NAKED TURTLE, 1 Dock St., Plattsburgh, NY, 518-566-6200

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Renaissance Man

Richard Whitten, Helen Day Art Center

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

Richard Whitten's odd artworks will amaze, amuse and possibly confuse visitors to his show at Stowe's Helen Day Art Center, aptly titled "Experiments."

A master of trompe l'oeil, the Rhode Island College painting professor meticulously renders imaginary architectural spaces in the style and with the painting methods of the Renaissance. The 50 or so assemblages and oil-on-panel pieces on display are rigorously classical in their forms and scholarly in the allusions contained in their titles. Whitten's insistently symmetrical work often includes precise depictions of spheres, cubes, cylinders and other three-dimensional shapes.

His aesthetic is austere. Human forms make no appearance in these pieces, and their regimented, soulless arrangements can be off-putting. Whitten's palette, while varied and sometimes fanciful, is generally more dark than light.

But this is an artist committed to conundrums — both in his individual creations and in the tenor of his entire show. Many of Whitten's works have a paradoxical playfulness, even jokiness. Plus, his utterly persuasive illusions often appear to violate the laws of physics and to defy spatial logic. "Experiments" thus serves as a fitting accompaniment to "Play," a concurrent Helen Day exhibit featuring artists who incorporate games and comical objects into their work.

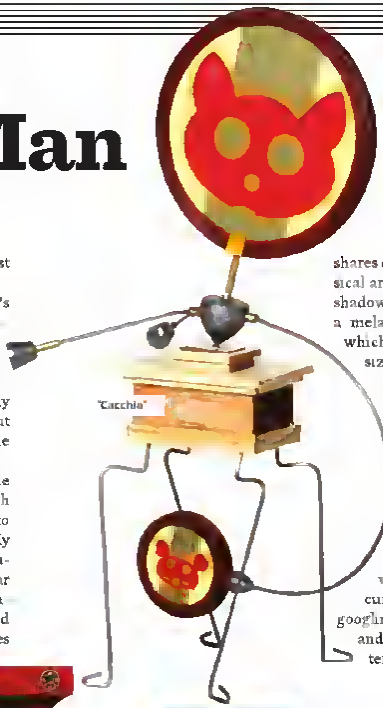
Whitten's show includes, for example, a quartet of seemingly purposeful contraptions consisting of gears, propellers and lettered or patterned discs that have been given the collective title "Mechanism for Measuring the Velocity of Wind in Paintings."

Propellers — painted this time — also appear in "Le Cigare Volant," in which they seem to enable a giant tube, which looks more like a bomb than a cigar, to stay afloat inside an arched interior.

Cartoonish cat and mouse heads are central elements of a few pieces. A circus elephant and a toy tram also catch the eye, even as it's tricked by receding and protruding planes. These recall the ingenious befuddlements presented by Dutch graphic illustionist M.C. Escher (1898-1972).

Such feats of fantasy reflect Whitten's stated interest in antique toys, mechanical devices and scientific instruments, especially those involving repetitive motion. Characteristically, however, none of these objects actually moves. Each looks as though it's about to spin or whirl and make noises in the process, but remains static and silent.

Viewers will twig to the subtle humor as they make their way through "Experiments." They will also come to realize that, despite the works' generally exact geometry, many pieces are irregularly shaped, with rounded or angular appendages affixed to otherwise rectilinear forms. Some seem to have hinged sections of the sort seen in altarpieces made for public or private worship 600 years ago. But Whitten's constructions don't actually fold — they just look like they could.



"Cacchio"



"Lethe"

Further indulging his penchant for mirage making, the artist encloses his wall-hung objects in faux frames. They sure do look like wooden or stone enclosures, but they're products of oil paint as much as everything else represented on these panels.

A quality of surrealism lurks in some of Whitten's work. It's especially evident in "Un Coup d'oeil," one in a set of smaller paintings that Helen Day curator Rachel Moore has grouped close together. The influence of Salvador Dalí can be seen in the floating sphere resembling an eyeball that's attached via a slack cord to what may be an upside-down spinning top.

The influence of Italian metaphysical artist Giorgio de Chirico (1888-1978) pervades the show, but in an unobtrusive and nonderivative way. Whitten shares de Chirico's predilection for classical architecture, bright light and deep shadows. Both imbue their works with a melancholy, vaguely ominous aura, which both complements and emphasizes their surreal subject matter.

"Ultimately," Whitten writes in an artist statement on his website, "my paintings are about intellectual play — an impetus for learning and exploration." Visitors may well agree with that capsule description after seeing and reflecting on "Experiments."

The titles of Whitten's works will certainly lead the curious to explore and learn by googling. "Putterije." "Thaumatrope." and "Orrery" are a few of the esoteric words Whitten chooses,

REVIEW



"Mechanism for Measuring the Velocity of the Wind in Paintings III"

in addition to his expropriations from French, German, Italian and Latin.

"Putterije" is a Dutch word for "goldfinch" — a curious name for a piece whose focal point is a dancing elephant. *The Goldfinch* also happens to be the name of Donna Tartt's 2014 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, which, in turn, is based on a gem of a painting made by Carel Fabritius in 1654.

WHITTEN'S UTTERLY PERSUASIVE ILLUSIONS OFTEN APPEAR TO VIOLATE THE LAWS OF PHYSICS AND TO DEFY SPATIAL LOGIC.



A thaumatrope was a popular 19th-century toy and a forerunner to the film projector. It involved discs with pictures that, when twirled by the pull of a string, seemed to merge into a single image through a phenomenon known as persistence of vision. Whitten makes reference to this device in his pieces featuring cat and mouse heads that seem to be about to spin.

An orrery is a mechanical model of the solar system. The cat and mouse faces also appear in the piece with this title — perhaps as representations of animal planets?

"Experiments" may strike some viewers as more gratuitously dense than satisfyingly cunning, similar to British playwright Tom Stoppard's more confounding intellectual bedazzlements. But there's no denying Whitten's originality and even uniqueness. You won't see anything like his work elsewhere in the Vermont art scene — or likely anywhere. ⓥ

INFO

Experiments: Recent Paintings and Sculptures by Richard Whitten" on view through April 12 at Helen Day Art Center in Stowe. helenday.com

NEW THIS WEEK

burlington

ESSER ART LEAGUE SHOW & SALE Exhibit on and art market with paintings and photographs by more than 40 artists. Reception: April 10, 5–8 p.m.; March 29–May 2. Info, 864-1557. Union Station in Burlington.

TONI LEE SANGASTIANO' Misguided Adorations," a photographic series of vacant Italian street shrine alcoves repurposed as slyly subversive altars to consumer culture, created during the artist's sabbatical in Florence, Italy. Reception: Thursday, March 26, 5–7 p.m. March 26–June 29. Info, 860-2733. Freeman Hall 300, Champlain College, in Burlington.

ONGOING SHOWS

burlington

28TH ANNUAL CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION AWARDS CEREMONY Original works by young artists from Burlington elementary schools. Through March 31. Info, 865-7166. Contois Auditorium at City Hall in Burlington.

ART'S ALIVE 2NO ANNUAL OPEN PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION Thirty-six Vermont photographers who answered an open call to artists show more than 100 photographs. Through March 29. Info, 660-9005. Art's Alive Gallery in Burlington.

BRYAN BRISCOE "Fruit & Flowers," new acrylic paintings by the area artist. Through April 2. Info, 578-272-2337. City Market/Onion River Co-op in Burlington.

CHANCE MCNIFF "Geometrically cosmic" acrylic and oil paintings lined with ink. Curated by SEABA. Through May 31. Info, 859-9222. Speeder & Earle's Pine Street in Burlington.

CHRISTINE WICHERT The artist's "Jack in the Pulpit" series includes one-of-a-kind multimedia work on canvas and paper with hand- or machine-sewn stitching. Through May 1. Info, 862-9647. The Daily Planet in Burlington.

'CIVIL WAR OBJECTS FROM THE UVM COLLECTIONS' Heirloom items donated to the museum from Americas Civil War period include correspondence and ephemera, quilts, medical items, fine and decorative art, and more. Wilbur Room. Through May 17. **'STARING BACK: THE CRERTIOH AHO LEGACT OF PICASSO S OEMOISELLES D'AVIONON.** The exhibit explores the origins and influence of the seminal cubist painting through a selection of American, African and European contemporary art, as well as new technologies. Through June 21. **'TRAVELERS IN POSTWAR EUROPE'** Black-and-white photographs of Germany, Paris, London and Venice by Burlington doctor H.A. Durfee Jr. between 1951 and 1953. Through June 28. Info, 656-8582. Fleming Museum, UVM, in Burlington.

DANA SMITH Original works drawn from nature by the Hawaii-born, self-taught artist. Through March 31. Info, 318-2438. Red Square in Burlington.

DJ BARRT ART "Project Stencil" spray paint on canvas works by the local artist. Through April 30. Info, 658-2010. Indigo Salon in Burlington.

IMAGES FROM THE MORAH PLANT A celebration of The Moran Plant's first artist-in-residence, Mary Lacy, features photographs of her murals by Burlington photographer Brendan Joe. Through April 9. Info, 922-4395. Scout & Co. in Burlington.

THE INNOVATION CENTER SHOW Group exhibits of local artists on all three floors: First Floor: Ashley Veselis, Casey Blanchard, James Vogler, Jamie Townsend, Liz Cleary, Lori Arner, Robert Green and Scott Nelson. Second Floor: Elizabeth Nelson, Emily Mitchell, Lyna Lou Nordstorm, Michael Pitts and Tom Merwin. Third Floor: Jessica Drury, Lynn Cummings, Haley Bishop, Janel Bonneau, Krista Cheney and Wendy James. Curated by SEABA. Through May 31. Info, 859-9222. The Innovation Center of Vermont in Burlington.

JASON BOTO, JORDAN DOUGLAS & MATT GANG Wood and mixed-media assemblages by Boyd; photographs on infrared and black-and-white film capturing recent travels by Douglas; and works in cork and wood by Gang. Curated by SEABA. Through May 31. Info, 859-9222. VCAM Studio in Burlington.

JEFFRET TRUBISZ Images "On the Trail" photographs of nature from the Pacific Northwest, Hawaii, Alaska and other places. Through March 31. Info, 859-9222. SEABA Center in Burlington.

JOE PULLIAM Paintings on 19th-century ledger paper by a noteworthy Lakota artist, who lives on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Through March 31. Info, 658-3074. Mirabelles Cafe in Burlington.

JULIE A. DAVIS Oil paintings and works on paper by the Burlington artist. Through April 27. Info, 363-4746. Flynndog Gallery in Burlington.

KRISTEN TORDELLA-WILLIAMS "Knot Work," sculptures that employ weaving, embroidery and knotting through hand-made paper, wood and mixed media, by the Mississippi-based artist. Through April 9. Info, oneartscollective@gmail.com. ONE Arts Center in Burlington.

LINDA DISANTI An exhibition of drawings and watercolors organized by ONE Arts Collective. Through April 13. Info, oneartscollective@gmail.com. Info, 660-9346. Radio Bean Coffeehouse in Burlington.

LISA LILLIBRIDGE. Freak Show," an installation of carved relief paintings created from found objects and textiles, influenced by vintage carnival signs, games and relationships. Through June 16. Info, 448-3657. Revolution Kitchen in Burlington.

MALTEX GROUP SHOW Art by Steve D'Ippenderfer, Nissa Kauppila, Carol Boucher, John Snell, Tracy Vartenigian, Burhans, Krista Cheney, Amy Hannum and Kimberly Bombard. Curated by Burlington City Arts. Through April 30. Info, 865-7166. The Mallex Building in Burlington.

MEGHAN RAYMOND Burlington artist Meghan Raymond's solo exhibition, "I Feel Present Tense of encaustic paintings and small sculptural works "explores issues of identity, privacy, nature's sublimity and the experience of time." Through March 31. Info, 448-5766. Vintage Inspired Lifestyle Marketplace in Burlington.

NANCY HAYT, TAPLIN & ETHAN BOND-WATTS "In Motion," abstract paintings by Taplin and glass sculptures by Bond-Watts that capture the "kinetic energy of color and light." Through April 4. Info, 865-5355. Vermont Metro Gallery, BCA Center in Burlington.

RENEE LAUZON Two sound installations: "If We Are Two They Will Have to Believe Us," and "Stripping/Retrieval [Women in the Woods]" are featured along with "Speech Attempt I & II," a work composed of vellum, clear wire, O-rings and tape. Through April 30. Info, 862-9616. Burlington College.

SALLY HUGHES & CAROL SHALLOW "Our Favorite Things," plein-air watercolor paintings by two friends. Through March 29. Info, 660-9005. The Gallery at Main Street Landing in Burlington.

A SHOW OF HANDS' The third annual exhibit of decorated wooden hands is a benefit for HANDS, a local nonprofit that helps get food to Vermont elders. Silent auction: Thursday, April 2, 5:30–7:30 p.m. Through April 2. Info, 951-8834. Penny Cluse Cafe in Burlington.

'TRAING PICTURES' An exhibit of works past and present from artists in The Pictures Generation of the 1970s that explores appropriation and the influence of mass media. Through April 4. Info, 865-5355. BCA Center in Burlington.

'THIS IS OUR SHOW': New work and collaborative paintings by Saige Tucker-Kelcham, Kristen L'Esperance and Dostie. Through March 29. Info, 660-9005. The 5 P.A.C.E. Gallery in Burlington.

TOM WATERS Acrylic paintings inspired by the beauty of Vermont, by the Essex artist. Through March 28. Info, 658-6400. American Red Cross Blood Donor Center in Burlington.

'TRAPPING BOATS OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN' A trapping boat from a Panton farm and a replica boat made by Middlebury College students during a boat building project led by master builder Douglas Brooks, in conjunction with Henry Sheldon Museum in Middlebury. Through March 31. Info, 453-6456. Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center in Burlington.

UVM MEDICAL CENTER GROUP SHOW Art by Michael Sipe, Cameron Schmitz, David Griggs, Michael Farnsworth, Phil Laughlin and Jane Ann Kanter. Curated by Burlington City Arts. Through April 30. Info, 865-7166. UVM Medical Center in Burlington.

VERMONT ARTISANS Frame shop owners Alex and Jeremy Dostie have been collecting artwork since opening in 2011. A selection of those pieces is on view featuring some 20 Vermont artists. Through March 30. Info, 660-9005. Dostie Bros. Frame Shop in Burlington.

'THE WASKOWMIUM, WHERE THE ART STOPS'. A selection of works by 45 regional artists represent Barre collector Mark Waskow's acquisitions since 1998. Through May 30. Info, 652-4500. Amy E. Tarrant Gallery, Flynn Center in Burlington.

ZOE BISHOP & ADAM FORBUITES New works in oil by the local artists. Through March 29. Info, 861-2067. Nunyuns Bakery & Cafe in Burlington.

chittenden county

BOB ARNS/MUTIH "Science Meets Art," the first solo show of Mulin, a University of Vermont emeritus professor of nuclear physics, who paints at the intersection of science and art. Through April 30. Info, 879-1236. Artists' Mediums in Williston.

JOHN WERVER' Oil paintings by the Montpelier artist. Through April 19. Info, 899-3211. Emile A. Gruppe Gallery in Jericho.

KATIE LOESEL Piles and Passageways," drawings and prints by the Vermont artist, who explores ideas of pilings, webs and balance. Through June 1. Info, 585-8222. Shelburne Vineyard.

KEITH TATARCZUK' Drawings in graphite and charcoal, watercolors and mixed-media works by the local artist. Through March 31. Info, 658-2739. Magic Hat Artifactory in S. Burlington.

MIRIAM ADAMS "Drawn to Words," graphite drawings and watercolors about books and words. Through April 13. Info, 482-2878. Carpenter-Carse Library in Hinesburg.

NATHAN BENN, "Kodachrome Memory: American Pictures 1972–1990," featuring evocative color images by the acclaimed National Geographic photographer. Through May 25. Info, 985-3346. Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education, Shelburne Museum.

'YOUNG VERMONT LIFESTYLE' Artwork by Mt. Mansfield Union High School students. Through April 15. Jericho Town Hall.

BARRE/MONTPELIER SHOWS » P76

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Joe Pulliam Artist Joe Pulliam, who lives on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, has some famous ancestors including Black Elk and Chief Crazy Horse. And he's got a friend and advocate in Vermont, Dr. Jay Stearns, who has secured a temporary home for a sampling of the Oglala Lakota native's paintings at Mirabelles Café in Burlington, through March 31. Pulliam describes on his Facebook page his mission "to further preserve our history and culture through my art." His emblematic and evocative watercolor works on ledger paper "help my people reclaim and regain an identity, stolen from us over a century of genocide," Pulliam writes. The images also echo the style of late-19th-century Native Americans who turned to painting on government records and other paper when traditional buffalo hides were no longer available. Pictured: "Crow Owners Society Short Lance Carrier."

CHITTENDEN COUNTY SHOWS « P.75

barre/montpelier

"1865: OUT OF THE ASHES: ASSASSINATION, RECONSTRUCTION & HEALING THE NATION" Historical art facts that commemorate the Civil War's 150th anniversary. Through July 31. Info, 485-2865. Sullivan Museum & History Center, Norwich University in Northfield.

ATHENA PETRA TASIOPOULOS. "Transcend," mixed media works utilizing found photographs that explore our shared humanity. Through March 31. Info, 479-0896. Espresso Buono in Barre.

AUGUST BURNS. "The Eyes Have It: Portraits and Figures," an expressive collection of paintings and drawings of men and women by the accomplished portraitist. Through March 31. Info, 828-3131. Vermont Supreme Court Lobby in Montpelier.

DANIEL BRALOW & SCOTT RAER. "Green Mountain Graveyards," a photography exhibit that explores the evolution of historic gravestones and funerary art in Vermont. Through April 1. Info, 479-8519. Vermont History Museum in Montpelier.

DARYL STORRS. "Landscape Dreams," woodcuts and pastels featuring landscapes of Vermont, Maine and the artist's imagination. Through April 10. Info, 371-4375. Central Vermont Medical Center in Barre.

OLEN COBURN HUTCHESON. Artwork by the gallery SIX founder. Through March 31. Info, 262-2253. The Skinny Pancake (Montpelier).

JONATHAN VANTASSEL. "So handsome. I know right?," abstract, large-scale paintings and photographs. Through May 1. Info, 828-3291. Spotlight Gallery in Montpelier.

"ROCK PAPER SCISSORS!" More than 15 artists exhibit works that include some aspect of the child hood game. Through April 4. **MARGARET JACOBS:** "Fact and Fiction," sculptures and drawings. Third Floor Gallery. Through April 4. **MICHELLE SAFFRAN:** "Remembering Our Future Death," collages by the local artist. Second Floor Gallery. Through April 4. Info, 479-7069. Studio Place Arts in Barre.

MICHAEL T. JERMYN. "New American Impressionism," images by the Montpelier photographer. Through April 30. Info, 223-1570. Chill Gelato in Montpelier.

NINA AND CRAIG LINE. The father and daughter photographers exhibit images of the Kent Museum as well as landscapes and portraits from Vermont and across the U.S., South America, the former Soviet Union, Europe and Nepal. Through March 31. Info, 223-2518. Montpelier Senior Activity Center.

RAY BROWN. Recent abstract oil paintings inspired by the Vermont artist's travels in Florida and Italy. Through March 31. Info, 552-8820. gallery SIX in Montpelier.

stowe/smuggs area

"SUBTLE, NOT SUBTLE: EVOCATIVE NUANCE". Delicate and complex paintings by Marc Civ tarese, Janis Pozzi-Johnson and Helen Shulman, and sculptures by Jonathan Prince. Through June 3.

"ENDLESS BEGINNINGS": NONREPRESENTATIONAL ART TODAY". Paintings and sculptures by 12 regional artists. Through April 19. **MERAGEDIE. ANIMALS IN ART".** Paintings and sculptures by 11 artists depict an array of domestic and wild creatures. Through March 29. Info, 253-8943. West Branch Gallery & Sculpture Park in Stowe.

JARI CHEVALIER. "Whole World in Pieces," collage inlays by the local artist. Through March 26. Info, 212-213-5310. Vermont Studio Center in Johnson.

MARIELUISE NUTCHINSON. New landscape paintings by the regional artist. Through March 31. Info, 253-1816. Green Mountain Fine Art Gallery in Stowe.

MICHAEL ZEBROWSKI. "Otwieracz," sculpture that explores art, architecture and science through the lens of material culture, by the JSC assistant professor of art. Through April 3. Info, 635-1469. Julian Scott Memorial Gallery, Johnson State College.

"PLAY". National and regional artists display work in various mediums inspired by play. Also, an ongoing collaborative art project by hundreds of local elementary school students. Through April 12. **RICHARD WHITTEN.** "Experiments," recent paintings and sculptures, "Architecturally Inspired objects and paintings in Renaissance style." Through April 12. Info, 253-8358. Helen Day Art Center in Stowe.

"ROMANCING THE GARDEN". Paintings of flowers, fauna, farms, gardens, buds and blossoms from more than 50 artists. Main Gallery. Also, "Peter Strong," Middle Room; and the 2014-2015 Legacy Collection, East Gallery. Through March 29. Info, 644-5100. Bryan Memorial Gallery in Jeffersonville.

SANDRA SHENK. Middlesex artist Sandra Shenk's solo exhibition, "A Celebration of Color, Light and Form in the Southwest," is a collection of travel and infrared photography, including images of Death Valley, southwestern Colorado and northern Arizona. Through April 29. **SARAH-LEE TERRAT:** "Inside the Nitty Gritty — Commercial Art and the Creative Process," reveals the artist's procedure, from sketches to final products, including illustrations, paintings, toys and sculpture. Through April 29. Info, 888-1261. River Arts in Morrisville.

"SLOPE STYLE". Thirty-five fully accessorized vintage ski outfits, with a special section of the exhibit dedicated to Vermont ski brands. Through October 31. Info, 253-9911. Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum in Stowe.

"VERMONT — A PERSONAL VIEWPOINT". Eighteen works depicting life in Vermont by six artists in styles from abstract to representational. Through June 3. Info, 472-5857. Grace Gallery at the Old Firehouse in Hardwick.

mad river valley/waterbury

REN FRANK MOSS & VARUJAN ROGHOSIAN. Collage, drawing, painting, works by the abstract and collage artists. Through April 25. Info, 767-9670. BigTown Gallery in Rochester.

ELIZABETH FRAM. "COLOR | stories," lively colorful textile collages by the Waterbury Center artist. Through March 30. Info, 244-6606. Waterbury Congregational Church.

"HOOKED IN THE VALLEY". Thirteen area artists display 36 hooked rug pieces in a variety of styles. Through March 28. Info, 496-6692. Festival Gallery in Waitsfield.

"VIBRANT COLORS". An exhibition of seasonal landscapes and flora by painters David McPhee, Karla Van Vliet and Suzanne Houston, and photographer Amalia Elena Verelli. Through April 25. Info, 244-7601. Axel's Gallery & Frameshop in Waterbury.

middlebury area

CALEB KENNA. "Elemental Vermont," photographs in the natural world by the Brandon artist. Through April 1. Info, 388-3300. American Flatbread (Middlebury Hearth).

"EMERGING: CELEBRATIONS OF SPRING". Artwork celebrating spring by local artists working in a variety of media. Through May 24. Info, 877-3850. Creative Space Gallery in Vergennes.

"IN CHAMPLAIN'S WAKE: TRAPPING BOATS OF THE LAKE CHAMPLAIN BASIN". Trapping boat with a replica built by high school students, including vintage trapping gear, photographs and a video of the building process, led by master builder Douglas Brooks, in conjunction with a Frog Hollow State

CALL TO ARTISTS

2015 SOUTH END ART HOP It's time to apply for participation in the 23rd annual South End Art Hop September 11-13. Artists, local businesses, fashion designers, food vendors and more can find application forms at seaba.com/art-hop. Deadline: June 20. SEABA Center, Burlington. Info, 859-8222.

ANIMATING INFRASTRUCTURE: The Vermont Arts Council proposes to foster collaborative partnerships between communities and artists to successfully integrate public art into existing or proposed infrastructure improvement projects. Eligible are proposals from municipalities, nonprofit arts and/or non-arts organizations, schools, libraries, downtown associations and more. Individual artists may not apply. Deadline: October 1. Vermont Arts Council, Montpelier. Info, 828-3291.

AREA ARTIST SHOW AT THE CHANDLER. For Chandler Gallery's perennially popular show, May 2 to June 14, central Vermont artists are invited to submit a recent work. The gallery will participate in the statewide Open Studios on Memorial Day weekend, so artists will have the opportunity to demonstrate or talk about their art. Artwork will be accepted on Sunday and Monday, Apr. 26 and 27, 3-5 p.m., $10 fee. For more info, contact Emily Crosby at 431-0204 or gallery@chandlerarts.org. Chandler Gallery, Randolph.

'THE ART OF DIVIND. Artists are invited to interpret the question, 'What does a strong and engaged community look like?' Seeking diverse and thoughtful submissions. Open to all mediums and artists at every level and age. Send image with title, medium and description to nancy@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org. Deadline: April 15. United Way of Addison County, Middlebury. Info, 388-7189.

'BLACK & WHITE' A call for black-and-white photographs that excel within monochromatic constraints and pay tribute to the origins of photography. Info at 777-3686. Deadline: April 14. Darkroom Gallery, Essex Junction. $24 for 4 images, $5 each additional. Info, darkroomgallery.com.

A CALL FOR DUST. The Museum of Everyday Life seeks submissions of dust including but not limited to dust removal objects, anecdotes, facts and urban myths, dust scholarship, art and, most importantly, dust samples from specific locations. More info at museumofeverydaylife.org. Deadline: May 13.

NORTHFIELD ART SHOW. Artists living or working in Northfield, Roxbury, Brookfield, Williamstown and Berlin are invited to submit up to six pieces for the 10th annual show, April 24-26, at the Brown Public Library. For info, contact Pam at druhens@tds.net or 485-9650. Deadline: April 13. Through April 13. $10 entry fee. Info, 485-9650.

SEVEN BELOW ARTS INITIATIVE. Burlington City Arts requests artist proposals for six-week residencies beginning in August. Open to artists working in any visual arts medium. Info at burlingtoncityarts.org/seven-below-initiative. Deadline: April 1. Info, 865-7166.

'TAKE AN ISLANDS TREASURE HOME. The fifth annual fundraising exhibit and sale will feature artist-painted corner cabinets (donated unpainted by Sams Wood Furniture) with proceeds benefiting Camp TaKumTa. Finished cabinets are due by June 15, and will be displayed throughout the summer around the Champlain Islands. For info, contact Ruth Wallman at ruth@vermont.org or 372-8400. Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, Burlington. Info, 372-8400.

Craft Center exhibition in Burlington. Through April 11. **'THE MUSEUM AS MUSE FOR SIX VERMONT POETS: NO IDEAS BUT IN THINGS'** A half-dozen members of the Spring Street Poets Workshop — David Weinstock, Janet Fancher, Karl Hansen, Ray Hudson, Janice Miller Potter and Mary Pratt — each selected an object from the museum's permanent collection and wrote a poem about it. The result is this unusual exhibit of artifacts and words. Reception with poetry readings, Thursday, March 26, 7 p.m. Through April 11. Info, 388-2117. Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History in Middlebury.

'LINE IN SPACE: JUST A CORNER OF YOUR MEMORY PALACE' Artworks focused on the limitless possibilities of the welded-steel rod, by students in Sanford Mirling's class Sculpture I: Communicating in Three Dimensions. Through April 3. Info, 443-5258. Johnson Memorial Building, Middlebury College.

'ANDY WARHOL PRINTS' 'Recent Gifts From the Andy Warhol Foundation.' Ten vivid prints by the late pop artist including portraits of Chairman Mao, Goethe, Sitting Bull, Ingrid Bergman and Queen Ntombi of Swaziland. Through April 19. Info, 443-3168. **'OUTSIDE IN: ART OF THE STREET'** Graphic works by 19 street artists and urban legends who are now exhibiting in museums and galleries internationally. Through April 19. Info, 443-3168. Middlebury College Museum of Art.

PAT LAFFIN Mixed-media and assemblage works by the Vermont artist. Through April 15. Info, 453-4130. Tourterelle, in New Haven.

PETER FRIED. The visual artist invites visitors to his new gallery and working studio to observe his process in various media. Works are available for purchase. Through December 31. Info, peterdfried@gmail.com. Info, 355-1447. Peter Fried Art in Vergennes.

'RAISE YOUR CUPS'. An exhibit and sale of ceramic works by local artists celebrates 40 years of pottery and arts education in Middlebury. Proceeds benefit the Middlebury Studio School's move to a new location in March. Through March 27. Info, 458-0098. Edgewater Gallery in Middlebury.

SUSAN ALANCRAIG Unexpected Journeys: Life, Illness and Loss: photographic portraits accompanied by audio and written excerpts of interviews given by women with metastatic cancer and their family caregivers. Through May 9. Info, 388-4964. Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury.

rutland area

BILL RAMAGE. An 11.5-by-43-foot photo-based drawing of downtown Rutland by the local artist and Castleton professor. Seen view by appointment. Through March 26. Info, 468-6052, 104 Merchants Row in Rutland.

BILL RAMAGE & ROR JOHNSON 'Death and the Chair,' a dual exhibit by the artist and Castleton College philosophy professor. Through March 28. Info, 468-6052. Castleton Downtown Gallery in Rutland.

GENE CHILDERS 'Bits and Pieces,' sculptures and assemblages made into bugs, musical creations and mobiles, as well as paintings and drawings. Through April 28. Info, 247-4556. Brandon Artists Guild.

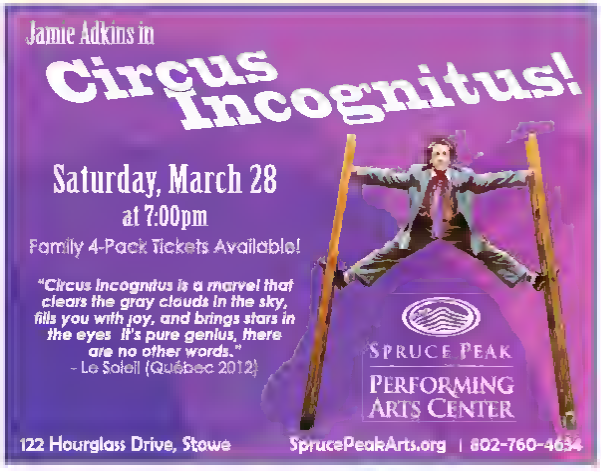
'A LOVE OF ART' A juried exhibition that celebrates work in diverse mediums by Chaffee's member artists. Through March 28. Info, 775-0062. Chaffee Art Center in Rutland.

RUSSELL SERRIANNE 'Natural Line' landscapes made from clipped vines by the Glens Falls, N.Y. artist. Through March 27. Info, 468-6052. Christine Price Gallery, Castleton State College.

'WHAT IS LOVE?' The gallery's annual Full House group exhibit offers diverse interpretations of and answers to the titular question. Through May 9. Info, 775-0062. Chaffee Downtown Art Center in Rutland.

WINTER ART MART Winter-inspired art in many mediums by local artists including Gayl Mirasted, Andrew David, Christie Lyn DuMoulin, Stu Hall, Maune Harrington, Tom Merwin, Jim Samler and Judith Reilly. Through March 29. Info, 247-4295. Compass Music and Arts Center in Brandon.

CHAMPLAIN ISLANDS/NORTHEAST SHOWS » P78







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RUTLAND AREA SHOWS « P.77

champlain islands/northwest

DENIE RYBICKI-JUDKINS, JIM FOOTE & PAT MURPNY. Pastels, paintings and wood sculpture and paintings, respectively. Through March 31. Info 933-2545. Artist in Residence Cooperative Gallery in Enosburg Falls.

upper valley

'FARMERS, WARRIORS, BUILDERS, THE HIDDEN LIFE OF ANTS'. A traveling Smithsonian Institution exhibition featuring macro photographs by ant expert and photographer Mark Moffett, along with interactive models that teach us about the complex lives of ants. Through April 5. **'THE LIGHT AROUND US'.** An exhibit that explores the physics of light and color. Through May 10. Info, 649-2200. Montshire Museum of Science in Norwich.

'FIBRATIONS!'. Fiber creations by more than a dozen New England artists. Through March 30. Info, 885-3061. The Great Hall in Springfield.

JEANETTE FOURNIER. Watercolor paintings inspired by wildlife and nature. Through March 31. Info, 359-5001. VINS Nature Center in Hartford.

TOM SCHULTEN. Vivid works by the renowned Dutch painter of consensusism. Through December 31. Info, 457-7193. Artem's Global Art in Woodstock.

brattleboro area

'CHILDREN OF THE OASIS'. Ten tapestries by students of Egypt's Ramses Wissa Wassef Centre, shown in conjunction with a contemporary fiber-art exhibit. Through June 21. **'DIALOGUE: LINDENFELD + LINDENFELD'.** Ceramics by Naomi Lindenfeld, inspired by and exhibited alongside textiles by her mother, Lore Kadden Lindenfeld. Through May 3. **'GATHERING THREADS: CONTEMPORARY FIBER ART'.** The works of 13 regional textile artists, featuring unconventional materials. Through May 3. **DONALD SARF.** "Contemporary Folk Tales," a solo exhibition of figurative paintings by the local artist and musician. Through June 21. **MICHAEL POSTER.** Photography series featuring the residents of the Messianic farming community Twelve Tribes in Bellows Falls. Through May 3. Info, 257-0124. Brattleboro Museum & Art Center.



'What Is Love?'

Poets and philosophers have contemplated the question since at least the Paleolithic era. Definitions are broad, from Plato's insistence that "love is a serious mental disease" to the Dalai Lama's belief that "love is the absence of judgment." The five artists in this juried exhibition at the Chaffee Downtown gallery in Rutland present their personal interpretations of the ageless question in sculpture, paint and felt. The works of Mary Alcantara, Sue Carey, Don Haynes, Melissa Kristiansen and Liliana Paradiso will be on view until May 9. Pictured: "Afternoon Break" by Paradiso.

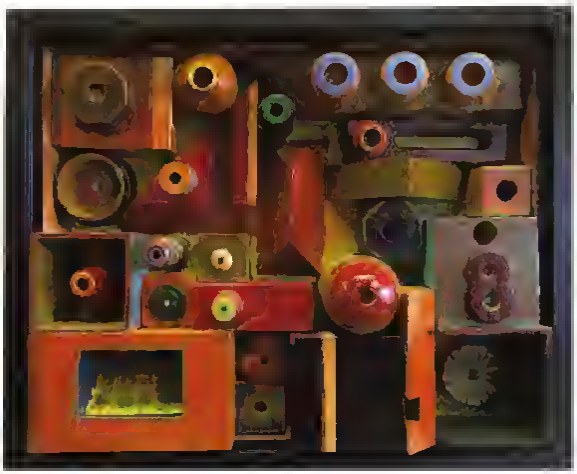
northeast kingdom

'GET OUT OF THIS ONE, BROKEN SNOW REMOVAL DEVICES OF THE NEK'. A brief celebration of futility in the form of an exhibit about the rigors of snow removal in Vermont winters. Through May 31. Info, claredol@sover.net. The Museum of Everyday Life in Glover.

SUSAN CALZA. Sculpture and drawings by the local artist. 3rd Floor Gallery. Through April 25. Info, 472-9933. Hardwick Inn.

SUSAN GOODBY. Paintings and collages of northern Vermont landscapes, portraits and still lifes. Through April 13. Info, 525-3366. The Parker Pie Co. in West Glover.

'TWO VIEWS FROM HOLLISTER HILL'. Recent work in varied genres by Marshfield painters Chuck Bohn and Frederick Rudi. Through April 22. Info, 748-0158. Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild Backroom Gallery in St. Johnsbury.



outside vermont

ALLAN HOUSER Five sculptures by one of the best-known Native American artists are installed outside the museum in the Maffei Arts Plaza, representing his 30-year work from 1986–1992. Through May 11. Info, 603-635-7423. Hood Museum, Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H.

ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL EXHIBITION The exhibition includes all visual arts media from students at almost a dozen area schools. Through April 24. Info, 518-563-1604. Strand Main Gallery in Plattsburgh, New York.

"WILD NATURE: MASTERWORKS FROM THE ADIRONDACK MUSEUM" Sixty-two paintings, photographs and prints from the permanent collection of the Adirondack Museum, dating from 1821 to 2001, including work by Hudson River School masters. Through April 19. **THE GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS COLLECTION** More than 120 photographs in a range of styles, including works by Henri Cartier-Bresson among many others. Through May 31. Info, 518-792-1761. The Hyde Museum in Glens Falls, N.Y.

"MARVELS AND MIRAGES OF ORIENTALISM: FROM SPAIN TO MOROCCO, BENJAMIN-CONSTANT IN HIS TIME" Six iconic aspects of orientalism are explored in Canada's first museum exhibition dedicated to the genre, featuring recently rediscovered works by Jean-Joseph Benjamin-Constant, a seminal figure in the movement. Through March 31. Info, 514-285-1600. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in Montreal, QC.

VINTAGE POSTERS AND SILENT AUCTION AVA board chair Alfred T. Quarles's collection of classic posters, including Harper's Bazaar and World War II propaganda. Reception and silent auction Saturday, March 28, 5:30–8 p.m. Through March 28. Info, 603-448-3117. AVA Gallery and Art Center in Lebanon, N.H.

ART EVENTS

AN ANECDOTAL HISTORY OF 'LES DEMOISELLES' Beth Gersh-Nesic, art historian, critic and curator, talks about Picasso's painting, "Les Demoiselles d'Avignon," and its influence on art today, including the works in the current exhibition "Staring Back." Fleming Museum, UVM, Burlington, Wednesday, March 25, 5 p.m. Info, 656-0750.

DOUGLAS BROOKS BOATBUILDING TALK. The master Vermont boatbuilder gives a talk in conjunct on with a current exhibit. Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center, Burlington, Thursday, March 25, 5 p.m. Info, 863-6458.

Gene Childers

This self-taught artist wants his "experiments" to "set your imagination free." Childers, a musician and retired music teacher from Brandon, reimagines found objects and junk into playful, humorous works with vibrant colors and a touch of the fantastic. His exhibition, "Bits and Pieces," on view at the Brandon Artists Guild through April 28, includes sculptures and assemblages that take the form of creatures, musical creations and mobiles, as well as paintings and drawings. Pictured: an untitled assemblage.

SWEET SIPS & PORCELAIN CUPS WITH JANICE WALRAFEN A monthly mixer with live music and hot drinks in handcrafted mugs. ONE Arts Center, Burlington, Friday, March 27, 7–9 p.m. $6 includes 2 cocktails; free for members. Info, oneartscollective@gmail.com.

"A LIVING MOSAIC" A pop-up exhibit of artwork by young Mosaic Learning Center students with developmental disabilities, inspired by collaborative therapeutic relationships. New City Galerie, Burlington, Saturday, March 28, 5–9 p.m. Info, 658-9176.

UKRAINIAN EGG DECORATION Vermont artist Theresa Somerset demonstrates how to paint traditional pysanky egg decorations. Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center, Burlington, Sunday, March 29, noon–3 p.m. Info, 863-6458.

"ART WITH A SPICE" Sip, socialize and make art with Kadrina Malicbegovic, who introduces students of all levels to her painting techniques. Nectar's, Burlington, Tuesday, March 31, 6–8 p.m. $30. Info, 310-7651.

TALK WITH JAMES H. MAHONEY JR. "Charles Sheeler and Albert Einstein: Pioneers in the Exploration of Spacetime," a talk about two contemporaries' pioneering work on the fourth dimension, or "spacetime," which Sheeler incorporated into two-dimensional art and photography. Mahaney Center for the Arts, Middlebury College, Tuesday, March 31, 4:30–5 p.m. Info, 443-5007.



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LET US DARE

Run All Night ★★★

There's good news and bad news about Oscar-nominated thespian-turned-geriatric-action-star Liam Neeson. The good news: He's announced that the curtain will soon come down on the segment of his career that began in 2008 with *Taken* and improbably spawned an entire subgenre. The bad news: Neeson plans to cash a couple of years' worth of additional paychecks ($20 million for *Taken 3*!) before he calls it quits. So we've got a few more *Unknowns* and *Non Stops* to sit through before the actor gets back to playing characters who are more than variations on Bryan Mills.

Jimmy Conlon is the latest spin on that archetype. In *Run All Night*, Neeson reteams with director Jaume Collet-Serra (*Unknown*, *Non Stop*) for the slightly-better-than-it-has-any-right-to-be saga of an over-the-hill mob hitman forced back into action by fate and Brad Ingelsby's needlessly convoluted script.

In his prime, Conlon was such a model of lethal efficiency he was known as the Gravedigger. But those days are long behind him as the movie opens. His old buddy and boss, Shawn Maguire (Ed Harris), has gone legit and is getting ready to retire. Conlon's son, Mike (Joel Kinnaman), thinks he's scum and hasn't spoken to him for years. His wife is dead. As is the beat-pump in his run-down dump of a house. Which is why Conlon is reduced to pleading with Maguire's hot-headed coke-fiend offspring, Danny (Boyd Holbrook), for a loan.

There, I think we've introduced all the main players. No, wait. I forgot the Albanian traffickers. You can't have a Liam Neeson action film without them, I'm pretty sure it's law.

Those Albanians are key to setting in motion the sequence of events that unfolds over a single night. In a nutshell, young Danny owes them, and they come by his place to collect. Being a loose cannon, he decides to gun them down rather than pay them back.

As fate and the script would have it, Mike winds up witnessing the whack. Which means Danny has to kill him, too. Which means the Gravedigger has to save his own son by taking out the son of his lifelong friend, and then use his very particular set of skills to stay one step ahead of Maguire's goons while making things right with Mike as the two race from one end of New York to the other. See what I mean about convoluted?



JUST DESSERTS Revenge is a dish served with more depth and nuance than one might expect in the latest from Collet-Serra

What makes *Run All Night* more interesting than it sounds is the twist that the two guys forced by fate (and that script again) to want each other dead are genuinely fond of each other. The picture occasionally takes time out to remind us that Neeson and Harris are really quite wonderful actors. They bring a dignity and depth of feeling to their roles even as the filmmakers do everything in their power to turn them into characters in a second-rate Frank Miller comic. When they had their last scene together, I swear for a second I almost felt the way I did at the end of *Love Story*.

"I've done some terrible things in my life," Conlon reflects. Neeson himself could make a similar statement, but *Run All Night* is not the most terrible of his films by a long shot. It hits all the usual genre beats, but it has just enough brains and heart to elevate it above the blur of old-guy-comes-out-of-retirement-to-save-a-family-member films the actor has concentrated on for the better part of a decade.

Still, it'll be nice, won't it, when that decade is behind us?

RICK KISONAK

Cinderella ★★★

Retold thousands of ways in folk literature, invoked by dozens of dating reality shows, revised and parodied everywhere from *Pretty Woman* to "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt," the Cinderella tale endures. The story of a human doormat who undergoes magic-assisted metamorphosis and social elevation is just *too good* to resist.

In fact, it's such a good story that Disney has told it to film audiences twice in the past 12 months, in radically different ways. Last December, *Into the Woods* presented Stephen Sondheim's fractured, grown-up vision of a Cinderella (Anna Kendrick) who wins the prince and suddenly isn't sure she *wants* him. Now with *Cinderella*, the company returns to the reassuringly old-school version of its 1950 animated feature of the same name, recreating it with live actors, CGI and the occasional twist.

No one should go to *Cinderella* expecting a "reimagining" along the lines of *Maleficent*, or even a take-charge, 21st-century fairy tale heroine like Rapunzel in *Tangled*. Determinedly predictable in its story and retro in its sensibilities, Kenneth Branagh's film probably wouldn't even have upset anyone in 1900 (once they recovered from the shock of seeing a digitally enhanced world on screen).

Lily James (of 'Downton Abbey') plays our heroine, Ella, as a childlike, trusting, whimsical girl raised in the bosom of the kind of family that generally nourishes such traits. But when her doting parents (Hayley Atwell and Ben Chaplin) perish in fairly short order, Ella is thrown on the mercy of a cynical social climber of a stepmother (Cate Blanchett) and her shallow, bickering daughters (Holliday Grainger and Sophie McShera).

Banished to the attic and renamed "Cinderella" by her sneering rivals, the perpetually cheerful Ella experiences an actual bout of depression. So she takes a jaunt into the woods where she meets a prince in commoner drag (Richard Madden) and begs him to spare the stag he's hunting, thereby winning his heart and putting everything in place for that inevitable ball.

Chris Weitz (*About a Boy*) has crafted a script that gives the plot occasional subtler shadings, for instance, the stepmother persecutes Cinderella out of insecurity vis-à-vis her dead predecessor, not random malice. Meanwhile, the film's costuming (by Sandy Powell) and production design (by Dante Ferretti) constantly ply the audience with eye candy. Cinderella's home is lit like a pre-Raphaelite interior, with swatches of rich color catching the eye, when Blanchett shows up, dressed and posing like Joan Crawford, she brings with her a decidedly Old Hollywood aesthetic. And Helena Bonham Carter as the fairy godmother (who also narrates the film) offers much-needed notes of deadpan humor.



DRUDGE AND DIVA While Blanchett looks great, the production design is the real star of this Disney retread

But in the end, *Cinderella*'s main appeal is its take-me-as-I-am sincerity — what's left after the clock strikes midnight and magicked finery and sophistication disappear. There are no epic battles or quests added to this fairy tale, no attempt to appeal to the quadrant that might prefer to be watching another *Harry Potter*. Under all those digital effects, the film is as unadorned as its moral, which Cinderella learned from her mother and repeats often (for some viewers, perhaps, ad nauseam): "Have courage, and be kind."

Older viewers, of course, know that those two good rules of conduct don't guarantee anyone a handsome prince — and that sometimes handsome princes aren't all they're cracked up to be. Placed beside the more complex vision of *Into the Woods*, this *Cinderella* looks awfully regressive, but the contrast could start interesting mother-daughter conversations. Why, one might ask, did the tales of ages past exalt so many patiently suffering damsels, and so few who got their hands dirty?

On the plus side, it's hard to believe even a very young viewer would see this vision of passive goodness triumphant as anything but the wistful fantasy it is. While it's as unchallenging as comfort food, this *Cinderella* is almost as hard to hate.

MARGOT HARRISON

NEW IN THEATERS

THE DIVERGENT SERIES: INSURGENT Tris (Shailene Woodley) continues her fight against a social order that allows everyone to have just one dominant character trait in the adaptation of the second novel in Veronica Roth's dystopian YA series. With Ansel Elgort, Theo James and Kate Winslet. Robert Schwentke (*R.I.P.D.*) directed. (119 min., PG-13. Bijou, Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Marquis, Palace, Roxy, Stowe, Welden)

DO YOU BELIEVE? A pastor strives to return to the roots of true belief in this faith-based ensemble film featuring Ted McGinley, Mira Sorvino, Sean Astin and others as interconnected characters seeking spiritual inspiration. Jonathan M. Gunn directed. (115 min., PG-13. Essex, Majestic)

GREEN MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL. Sixty-one films from around the world will be screened in Montpelier from March 20 to 29. See story, this issue. (Savoy)

THE GUNMAN. A former mercenary (Sean Penn) working for an NGO in the Congo finds that his past as the assassin of one of the nation's officials has caught up with him in this action drama from director Pierre Morel (*Taken*). With Idris Elba and Javier Bardem. (115 min., R. Capitol, Essex, Majestic, Palace)

GEEC ARMY. Gabriel Polsky's acclaimed documentary takes a look back at the Soviet Union's national ice hockey team, its iconic cultural status and its role in the propaganda machine through interviews with former players. (76 min., PG. Roxy)

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS. The New Zealand comedy duo of Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi (*Flight of the Conchords*) wrote, directed and starred in this mockumentary about three flatmates who happen to be vamp res. It won the Toronto International Film Festival's People's Choice Award. With Jonathan Brugh. (86 min., NR. Roxy)

NOW PLAYING

AMERICAN SNIPER★★★★ Bradley Cooper plays renowned Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle during and after his tours in Iraq. In this drama from director Clint Eastwood. With Sienna Miller and Kyle Gallner. (132 min., R. reviewed by R.K. 1/14)

BIRDMAN OR (THE UNEXPECTED VIRTUE OF IGNORANCE) ★★★★★ Michael Keaton plays an actor who once headlined blockbusters and is now struggling to make a theatrical comeback. (119 min., R. reviewed by R.K. 11/12)

CHAPPIE★★½ Neill Blomkamp (*District 9*, *Elysium*) directed this near-future tale of a police robot with a repressive mission who finds himself reprogrammed. Sharlto Copley, Dev Patel and Hugh Jackman star. (120 min., R. reviewed by M.H. 3/11)

CINDERELLA★★★ Cate Blanchett gets to step out as the evil stepmother in Disney's live-action retelling of the tale of a put-upon girl and a glass slipper, directed by Kenneth Branagh. Lily James, Richard Madden and Helena Bonham Carter also star. (112 min., PG. reviewed by M.H. 3/18)

THE DUFF★★★ When a teen (Mae Whitman) discovers that her supposed BFFs call her the Designated Ugly Fat Friend, she sets out to turn the high school caste system on its head. Ari Sandel directed. (100 min., PG-13)

ratings

★ = refund, please
★★ = could've been worse, but not a lot
★★★ = has its moments, so-so
★★★★ = smarter than the average bear
★★★★★ = as good as it gets

RATINGS ASSIGNED TO MOVIES NOT REVIEWED BY **RICK KISONAK** OR **MARGOT HARRISON** ARE COURTESY OF METACRITIC.COM, WHICH AVERAGES SCORES GIVEN BY THE COUNTRY'S MOST WIDELY READ MOVIE REVIEWERS

FIFTY SHADES OF GREY★★1/2 One clumsy college student (Dakota Johnson) plus one ridiculously young billionaire (Jamie Dornan) plus some light bondage equals E.L. James' bestselling erotic romance, which director Sam Taylor-Johnson has transferred to the screen. (125 min., R)

FOCUS★★★ Will Smith plays a veteran con artist who finds himself distracted in the middle of a job by a woman from his past (Margot Robbie). In this comedy-drama from the writing team of Glenn Ficarra and John Requa. (104 min., R. reviewed by M.H. 3/4)

IDA★★★★1/2 In Communist Poland, a sheltered girl about to take vows at a convent (Agata Trzebokowska) makes a startling discovery about her family's World War II past, in this black-and-white period drama from director Pawel Pawlikowski (*My Summer of Love*). (121 min., PG-13)

KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE★★★1/2 A British street kid (Taron Egerton) is tapped to become a modern-day James Bond in this action comedy. Matthew Vaughn directed. (129 min., R)

THE LAZARUS EFFECT★★ Documentarian David Gelb (*Jiro Dreams of Sushi*) swerves over to the thriller genre with this tale of a group of med students who believe they've found the key to reviving the dead. (83 min., PG-13. reviewed by R.K. 3/4)

LEVIATHAN★★★★★ In this modern take on the trials of Job, set in Putin's Russia, a man fights the powers that be to save his remote home. Director Andrey Zvyagintsev's film was nominated for a Best Foreign Language Film Oscar. (140 min., R. reviewed by R.K. 3/11)

MCFARLAND, USA★★★ Kevin Costner plays a coach at a predominantly Mexican-American high school who bonds with his students as he leads the cross-country team to victory in this Disney sports drama. (128 min., PG)

MR. TURNER★★★★★ Timothy Spall plays renowned English landscape artist J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851) in this biopic from director Mike Leigh (*Topsy-Turvy*), a four-category Oscar nominee. (150 min., R. reviewed by R.K. 1/28)

A MOST VIOLENT YEAR★★★1/2 That year is 1981, when an immigrant businessman (Oscar Isaac) stakes everything on a new HQ for his New York heating business. J.C. Chandor (*All Is Lost*) directed. (125 min., R. reviewed by R.K. 2/4)

PADDINGTON★★★★ Michael Bond's classic children's books come to the screen in this family flick about an Anglophile Peruvian bear who seeks a new home in London. (95 min., PG)

RUN ALL NIGHT★★★ Liam Neeson plays a hitman who has one night to decide whether his loyalties lie with his estranged son (Joel Kinnaman) or his former mob boss (Ed Harris), in yet another addition to his tough-guy résumé. Once again, he teams up with director Jaume Collet-Serra (*Non-Stop*, *Unknown*). (114 min., R. reviewed by R.K. 3/18)

THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL★★1/2 The sequel to the 2011 comedy-drama hit follows the quirky inhabitants and managers of an Indian inn as they strive to expand into a second establishment. Starring Bill Nighy, Maggie Smith, Celia Imrie, Dev Patel and newcomer Richard Gere. John Madden again directed. (122 min., PG)

THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER★★★ In his second feature, the beloved animated character pursues a stolen recipe into the live-action dimension — and meets a pirate. (93 min., PG)

STILL ALICE★★★★1/2 Julianne Moore got an Oscar nomination for her performance as a linguistics professor battling early-onset Alzheimer's in this drama adapted from Lisa Genova's novel. Richard Glatzer and Wash Westmoreland directed. (101 min., PG-13. reviewed by R.K. 2/11)

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING★★★★1/2 Eddie Redmayne and Felicity Jones play physicist Stephen Hawking and his wife Jane in this adaptation of the latter's memoir of their marriage. James Marsh directed. (123 min., PG-13)

NOW PLAYING » P.83



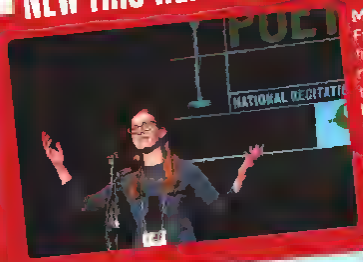
Eva Sollberger's

STUCK IN VERMONT

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NEW THIS WEEK!



March 18, 2015
Five thousand students from across Vermont memorized poems for the annual **Poetry Out Loud** competition. Eva Sollberger filmed the state semi-finals at the Barre Opera House. The winners advance to the finals on March 19.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:



MARCH 4, 2015
The sights, sounds and scents of spring greeted visitors to the **Vermont Flower Show** at the Champlain Valley Expo.



FEBRUARY 25, 2015
Competitive swimmers from around the world gathered in Newport last month for the first-ever **U.S. Winter Swimming Championships**. Newport Parks and Rec staff cut the ice on Lake Memphremagog to make lanes for the 25-, 50- and 100-meter races.



FEBRUARY 18, 2015
Meet the **Rutland Raiders Varsity Cheerleading Squad**, a spirited group of high schoolers who nabbed second place at the recent national cheerleading competition in Dallas, TX.

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HOTEL VERMONT

VERMONT

Watch something LOCAL this week.

VCAM CHANNEL 15
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RETN CHANNEL 16
BURLINGTON FILM SOCIETY PRESENTS
SUNDAYS > 8:00 PM

CHANNEL 17
WATCH LIVE @5:25
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SEVEN DAYS jobs



LOCAL*theaters*

(*) = NEW THIS WEEK IN VERMONT
FOR UP-TO-DATE TIMES VISIT SEVENDAYSVT.COM/MOVIES.

BIG PICTURE THEATER

48 Cornell Rd. (off Rte. 100), Waitsfield, 496-8994, bigpicturetheater.info

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA
Still Alice

friday 20 — tuesday 24
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

BIJOU CINEPLEX 4

Rte. 100, Morrisville, 888-3293, bijou4.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
American Sniper
Cinderella
The DUFF
The Lazarus Effect

friday 20 — thursday 26
Cinderella
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D)
The DUFF
The Lazarus Effect
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water

CAPITOL SHOWPLACE

113 State St., Montpelier, 229-0343, fghtheaters.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Chappie
Focus
The Lazarus Effect
McFarland, USA
Run All Night

friday 20 — wednesday 25
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D)
*The Gunman
The Lazarus Effect
McFarland, USA
Run All Night
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water

ESSEX CINEMAS & T-REX THEATER

21 Essex Way #300, Essex, 878-6543, essexcinemas.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
American Sniper
Chappie
Cinderella
The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D) Thu only)
*Do You Believe? (Thu only)
The DUFF
Fifty Shades of Grey
Focus
*The Gunman (Thu only)
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA
Run All Night
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (Wed only)
Unfinished Business

friday 20 — wednesday 25
American Sniper
Cinderella
The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D)
*Do You Believe?
Fifty Shades of Grey
The Gunman
Kingsman: The Secret Service
Run All Night
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

MAJESTIC 10

190 Boxwood St. (Maple Tree Place, Taft Corners), Williston, 878-2010, majestic10.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
American Sniper
Chappie
Cinderella
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D) Thu only)
*Do You Believe? (Thu only)
The DUFF
Fifty Shades of Grey
Focus
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA
Paddington
Run All Night
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water
Unfinished Business

friday 20 — thursday 26
American Sniper
Chappie
Cinderella
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D) Thu only)
*Do You Believe?
Fifty Shades of Grey
Focus
*The Gunman
Kingsman: The Secret Service
Run All Night
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

MARQUIS THEATRE

Main St., Middlebury, 388-4841, marquistheatre.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Cinderella
Kingsman: The Secret Service

friday 20 — thursday 26
Schedule not available at press time

MERRILL'S ROXY CINEMA

222 College St., Burlington, 864-3456, merrillstheatres.net

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Birdman
Chappie
Foxcatcher & Whiplash (double feature; one ticket admits to both)
Leviathan
Mr. Turner
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
Still Alice

friday 20 — thursday 26
The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D)
Ida
Leviathan
*Red Army
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
Still Alice
*What We Do in the Shadows

PALACE 9 CINEMAS

10 Fayette Dr., South Burlington, 864-5610, palace9.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
American Sniper
Chappie
Cinderella
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D) Thu only)
Focus
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA
**The Met: Opera: La Donna del Lago
**The Royal Ballet: Swan Lake (Thu only)
Run All Night
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water
The Theory of Everything
Unfinished Business

friday 20 — thursday 26
American Sniper
* The Breakfast Club 30th Anniversary (Thu only)
Chappie
Cinderella
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent (2D & 3D)
Focus
**Four Blood Moons (Mon only)
The Gunman
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA
* Rear Window Presented by Turner Classic Movies (Sun & Wed only)
Run All Night
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water
The Theory of Everything
* A View From the Bridge: National Theatre Live Production (Thu only)

PARAMOUNT TWIN CINEMA

241 North Main St., Barre, 479-9621, fghtheaters.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Cinderella
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water

friday 20 — thursday 26
Chappie
Cinderella

THE SAVOY THEATER

26 Main St., Montpelier, 223-0509, savoytheatre.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
A Most Violent Year
The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

friday 20 — thursday 26
Green Mountain International Film Festival

STOWE CINEMA 3 PLEX

Mountain Rd., Stowe, 253-4178, stowecinema.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Focus
Kingsman: The Secret Service
McFarland, USA

friday 20 — thursday 26
Schedule not available at press time

WELDEN THEATRE

104 North Main St., St. Albans, 527-7888, weldentheatre.com

wednesday 18 — thursday 19
Cinderella
The DUFF
The Lazarus Effect
Way Back Wednesday (weekly retro movie)

friday 20 — thursday 26
Cinderella
*The Divergent Series: Insurgent
The DUFF
The Lazarus Effect
Way Back Wednesday (weekly retro movie)

mobile

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NOW PLAYING « P.21

UNFINISHED BUSINESS ★1/2 In this comedy Vince Vaughn Dave Franco and Tom Wilkinson play business associates whose working trip to Europe turns into an outrageous odyssey Ken Scott (*Delivery Man*) directed (91 min R)

WHIPLASH ★★1/2 Miles Teller plays a jazz-drumming student who clashes with his perfectionist instructor (J K Simmons) in this buzzed about festival hit from writer-director Damien Chazelle (107 min R reviewed by R K 11/19)

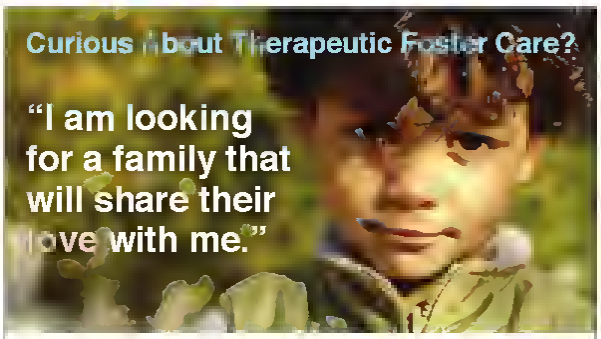
NEW ON VIDEO

ANNIE ★1/2 Quvenzhané Wallis plays the irrepressible foster child who holds out for "Tomorrow" in this new take on the family musical set in the present (118 min PG)

EXODUS GODS AND KINGS ★★1/2 Christian Bale plays the rebellious Moses and Joel Edgerton is Egyptian pharoah Rameses in this biblical epic from director Ridley Scott (150 min PG-13 reviewed by M H 12/17)

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR ★★1/2 The beloved birds from the *Madagascar* franchise get a comic spinoff featuring the voices of Tom McGrath Benedict Cumberbatch and John Malkovich (92 min PG)

TOP FIVE ★★★★ Chris Rock plays a famous comedian trying to make it as a serious actor in this self referential comedy that he also wrote and directed With Rosario Dawson Gabrielle Union Kevin Hart and Adam Sandler (101 min R)



8 year old Johnny* has few positive connections in his life outside of Howard Center We are helping him to find reliable and nurturing adults to provide weekend respite in addition to finding him an adoptive family Johnny shares that he is looking for a family that is "fun, watches movies, rides bikes and plays baseball" Johnny loves singing Michael Jackson in the shower and is a true performer Johnny likes to stay busy and be around other kids. Johnny needs adults in his life that can provide consistency and structured routines while remaining compassionate and making time with him fun and special.

Call 802.488.6742 or email HCFosterCare@howardcenter.org today to learn more about Johnny!

*Real name withheld for confidentiality More information available upon inquiry

HOWARD CENTER Help is here

LIVE culture
VERMONT ARTS NEWS + VIEWS

More movies!

Film series events and festivals at venues other than cinemas can be found in the calendar section

MOVIES YOU MISSED

BY MARGOT HARRISON

Did you miss *THE OVERNIGHTERS*?

The film that *should* have been nominated for a 2015 Best Feature Documentary Oscar is a dark, mesmerizing portrayal of hope in hard times and what it means to practice Christian charity today.



Filmmaker Jesse Moss went to Williston N.D. because he wanted to see what a 21st-century gold rush looks like. In the few years since hydraulic fracking gave birth to the North Dakota oil boom, the small town has swelled from about 15,000 residents to more than 20,000.

The boom has touched off a new labor migration within the U.S. reminiscent of *The Grapes of Wrath*.

In the Movies You Missed & More feature every Friday I review movies that were too weird, too cool, too niche or too terrible for Vermont's multiplexes.

Should you catch up with them on DVD or VOD, or keep missing them?

WHAT I'M WATCHING

BY ETHAN DE SEIFE

This week I'm watching *CARNY*

The 1980 film *Carny* is a feast for lovers of great character actors, but its real value is in its exploration of the seamy, seedy underworld of carnival sideshows. An odd little movie that is worth your time.



One career ago, I was a professor of film studies. I gave that up to move to Vermont and write for *Seven Days*, but movies will always be my first love.

In this feature, published every Saturday on Live Culture, I write about the films I'm currently watching, and connect them to film history and art.

READ THESE EACH WEEK ON THE LIVE CULTURE BLOG AT **sevendaysvt.com/liveculture**

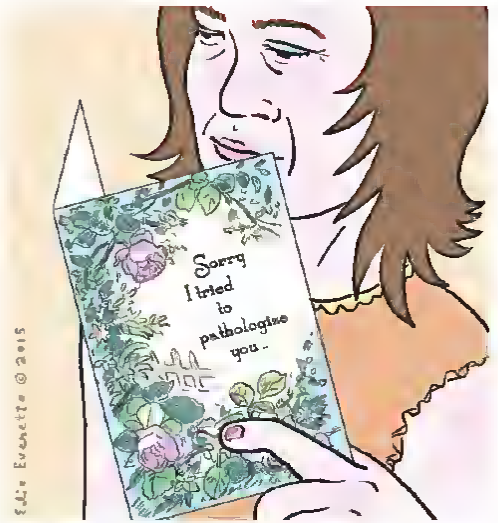


fun stuff

DAVE LAPP



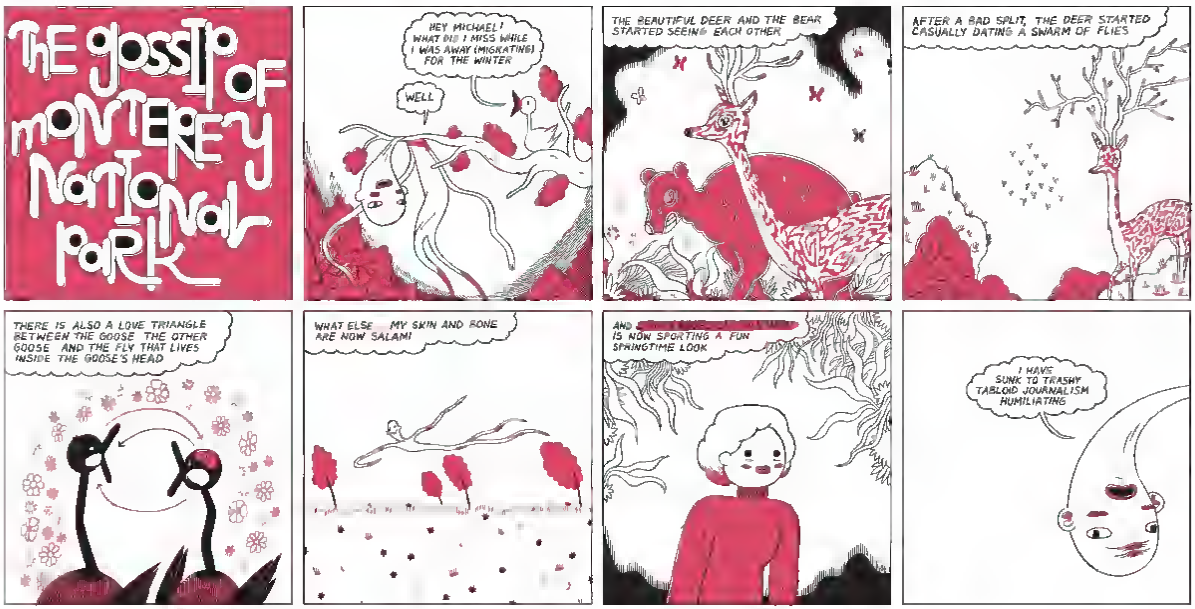
EDIE EVERETTE



LULU EIGHTBALL



MICHAEL DEFORGE



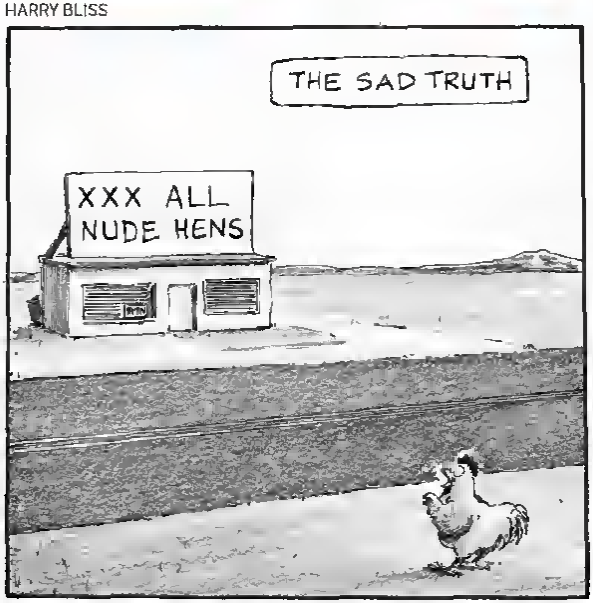
MORE FUN!

STRAIGHT DOPE (P30)
CROSSWORD (P.C-5)
CALCOKU & SUDOKU (P.C-6)

JEN SORENSEN



HARRY BLISS



Curses, Foiled Again

Rocco Tumbarello, 41, stole stuff from a home in West Boynton, Fla., authorities there said, but he didn't get far. He lives across the street. The victim came home to find his 42-inch TV and his mother's laptop gone, the sheriff's report said, and spotted his neighbor "running across the street with his television in his hands" (*South Florida Sun Sentinel*)

The civil marriage of Zubair Khan, 48, and Beata Szilagyi, 33, was exposed as a ruse to skirt British immigration laws when Khan couldn't remember Szilagyi's name. He delayed the ceremony to call his marriage broker for the name. The suspicious registrar called authorities, who arrested bride and groom for what Home Office immigration official Andy Sharpe called "a farcical, but nonetheless serious, attempt." (*New York Daily News*)

Nothing to Fear Here

The month after an inebriated government employee crashed a small drone on the White House lawn, the Secret Service announced plans to test its own "unmanned aircraft systems" to help protect the White House from drone attacks and other incursions. "I don't think we're talking about a battle of drones in the skies," Michael Drobac, executive director of the pro-drone Small UAV Coalition, said. "This isn't 'Battlestar Galactica' gone drone. I think this is simply an ability to monitor. I'm confident they're not intending to use weaponized drones." (*Washington Times*)

It Happens

Human waste left by climbers on Mount Everest is causing pollution and threatening to spread disease, according to the head of Nepal's mountaineering association. Ang Tshering told reporters that more than 700 foreign climbers and guides spend two months climbing the world's tallest peak during the brief climbing season, leaving feces and urine at four camps where they stay to acclimate themselves to the altitude. "Climbers usually dig holes in the snow for their toilet use and leave the human waste there," Tshering said, adding the waste has been "piling up" for years. (Associated Press)

Hot Pockets

Erik Johnson spent 10 days in a hospital burn unit in Lindenhurst, NY., recovering from second- and third-degree burns after his iPhone exploded in his pocket. "I bent over to get keys, and all I heard was a 'pop' and after a little 'ssshh,' smoke coming out and just like an instant burn," Johnson said. "My leg just starts going on fire, try to get it out, can't get it out. I was literally jumping up and down to get the phone out of my pocket, but I had dress pants on. I think the phone melted my pockets shut so I couldn't get into it, and I had to rip my pants off. A couple of people actually said they could smell my body burning." Apple said it is looking into the case. (CNN)

Familiarity Breeds Attempt

Christopher Miller, 41, served 15 years in prison for robbing three businesses, including a Stride Rite shoe store in Toms River, N.J. The day after he was paroled, he returned to the same Stride Rite store and robbed the same clerk, who had been notified of Miller's release. Miller pleaded guilty and faces 10 to 20 years in prison. (NJ.com)

Pharmaceutical Follies

Mary McKaig, 54, asked a Florida court to void her online bid of $100,500 for a foreclosed home because she was under the influence of "judgment-altering" prescription diet pills. After her bid was accepted, McKaig discovered the property has more than $400,000 of debt. "The diet pill seems like a convenient excuse for not doing their research before bidding," said Lloyd McClendon, CEO of RealAuction.com, which handled the transaction. (ABC News)

ERIK JOHNSON SPENT 10 DAYS IN A HOSPITAL BURN UNIT AFTER HIS IPHONE EXPLODED IN HIS POCKET.

Nut-Job Update

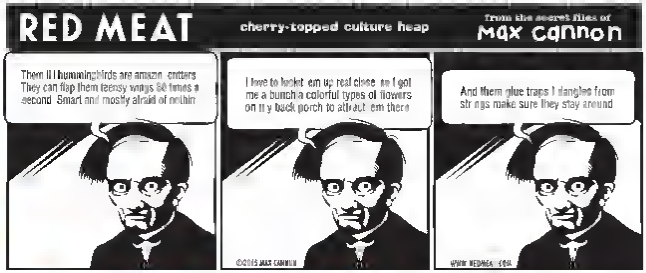
Cho Hyn-ah, the former Korean Air vice president who ordered a plane back to its gate after a first-class flight attendant served her macadamia nuts in an unopened package instead of on a plate, received a year in prison for violating aviation safety law. Park Chang-jin, the steward who was removed from the plane, said that Cho, one of South Korea's wealthiest women, forced him and the junior attendant to apologize on their knees, "like slaves in a medieval era." (*New York Times*)

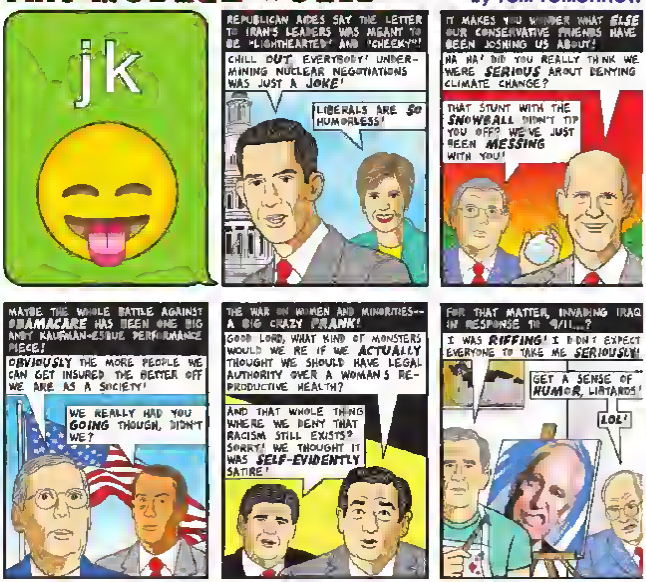
FRAN KRAUSE

DEEP DARK FEARS



Have a deep dark fear of your own? Submit it to cartoonist Fran Krause at deep-dark-fears.tumblr.com and you may see your neurosis illustrated in these pages





KAZ





ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're entering a time and space known as the Adlib Zone. In this territory fertile chaos and inspirational uncertainty are freely available. Improvised formulas will generate stronger mojo than timeworn maxims. Creativity is de rigueur and street smarts count for more than book learning. May I offer some mottoes to live by when common sense is inadequate? 1. Don't be a slave to necessity. 2. Be as slippery as you can be and still maintain your integrity. 3. Don't just question authority; be thrilled about every chance you get to also question habit, tradition, fashion, trendiness, apathy and dogma.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) By 1993, rock band Guns N' Roses had released five successful albums. But on the way to record their next masterpiece, there were numerous delays and diversions. Band members feuded. Some were fired and others departed. Eventually only one original member remained to bring the task to conclusion with the help of new musicians. The sixth album, *Chinese Democracy*, finally emerged in 2008. I'm seeing a similarity between Guns N' Roses' process and one of your ongoing projects, Taurus. The good news is that I think most of the hassles and delays are behind you, or will be if you act now. You're primed to make a big push toward the finishline.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) The anonymous blogger at Neurolove.me gives advice on how to love a Gemini. "Don't get impatient with their distractibility. Always make time for great conversation. Be understanding when they're moody. Help them move past their insecurities, and tell them it's not their job to please everyone. Let them have space but never let them be lonely." I endorse all that good counsel and add this: "To love Geminis, listen to them attentively and with expansive flexibility. Don't try to force them to be consistent; encourage them to experiment at uniting their sometimes conflicting urges. As best as you can, express appreciation not just for the parts of them that are easy to love, but also for the parts that are not yet ripe or charming." Now feel free, Gemini, to show this horoscope to those whose affection you want.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You have recently been to the mountaintop, at least metaphorically. Right? You wandered out to the high frontier and ruminated on the state of your fate from the most expansive vista you could find. Right? You have questioned the limitations you had previously accepted, and you have weaned yourself from at least one of your devitalizing comforts, and you have explored certain possibilities that had been taboo. Right? So what comes next? Here's what I suggest: Start building a new framework or structure or system that will incorporate all that you've learned during your breakthrough.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) According to the international code of food standards, there are 13 possible sizes for an olive. They include large, extra large, jumbo, extra jumbo, giant, colossal, super colossal, mammoth and super mammoth. If I had my way, Leo, you would apply this mindset to everything you do in the coming weeks. It's time for you to think very big. You will thrive as you expand your mind, stretch your boundaries, increase your territory, amplify your self-expression, magnify your focus and broaden your innocence.

Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 20)

Do you need a reason to think sharper and work smarter and try harder? I'll give you four reasons. 1. Because you're finally ready to get healing for the inner saboteur who in the past has undermined your confidence. 2. Because you're finally ready to see the objective truth about one of your self-doubts, which is that it's a delusion. 3. Because you're finally ready to stop blaming an adversary for a certain obstacle you face, which means the obstacle will become easier to overcome. 4. Because you're finally ready to understand that in order to nurture and hone your ample creativity, you have to use it to improve your life on a regular basis.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) "Half the troubles of this life can be traced to saying yes too quickly and not saying no soon enough," proclaimed humorist Josh Billings. That's an exaggeration made for comic effect, of course. (And I think that some of life's troubles also come from saying no too much and not saying yes enough.) But for you, Virgo, Billings' advice will be especially pertinent in the coming weeks. In fact, my hypothesis is that you will be able to keep your troubles to a minimum and boost your progress to a maximum by being frugal with yes and ample with no.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your mind says "I need more room to move. I've got to feel free to experiment." Your heart says "I think maybe I need more commitment and certainty." Your astrologer suggests "Be a bit more skeptical about the dream lover who seems to be interfering with your efforts to bond with the Real Thing." I'm not sure which of these three sources you should heed, Libra. Do you think it might somehow be possible to honor them all? I invite you to try.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) "Without your wound where would your power be?" asked writer Thornton Wilder. "The very angels themselves cannot persuade the wretched and blundering children on Earth as can one human being broken on the wheels of living." Let's make that one of your ongoing meditations, Scorpio. I think the coming weeks will be an excellent time to come to a greater appreciation for your past losses. What capacities has your suffering given birth to? What failures have made you stronger? What crucial lessons and unexpected benefits have emerged from your sadness and madness?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) "Creating is not magic but work," says Kevin Ashton, author of the book *How to Fly a Horse: The Secret History of Creation, Invention and Discovery*. In other words, inspiration is a relatively small part of the creative process. Over the long haul, the more important factors are self-discipline, organized thinking, hard work and attention to detail. And yet inspiration isn't irrelevant, either. Brainstorms and periodic leaps of insight can be highly useful. That's a good reminder as you enter a phase when you're likely to be more imaginative and original than usual. I expect creative excitement to be a regular visitor.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The fictional detective Sherlock Holmes was a good Capricorn, born January 6, 1854. In the course of Arthur Conan Doyle's 60 stories about his life, he revealed his exceptional talent as an analytical thinker. His attention to details was essential to his success, and so was his expertise at gathering information. He did have a problem with addictive drugs, however. Morphine tempted him now and then, and cocaine more often, usually when he wasn't feeling sufficiently challenged. Let this serve as a gentle warning, Capricorn. In the coming weeks, seek more relaxation and downtime than usual. Focus on recharging your psychic batteries. But please be sure that doesn't cause you to get bored and then dabble with self-sabotaging stimuli.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) English is my first language. Years ago there was a time when I spoke a lot of French with my Parisian girlfriend, but my skill faded after we broke up. So I'm not bilingual in the usual sense. But I do have some mastery in the language of music, thanks to my career as a singer-songwriter. Having raised a daughter, I also learned to converse in the language of children. And I've remembered and worked with my nightly dreams every day for decades, so I speak the language of dreams. What about you, Aquarius? In the coming weeks, I bet you'll be challenged to make more extensive use of one of your second languages. It's time to be adaptable and resourceful in your approach to communication.

SEVEN DAYS

PERSONALS

Introducing: Vermonters

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WOMEN seeking WOMEN

SOUTHERN GIRL LIVING UP NORTH
34 y/o woman looking to meet new friends and if I am lucky maybe that one person who ends up not only as my partner but my best friend I am shy at first love to kiss and love to laugh I enjoy Netflix more than dancing, and love sushi **trinityjade 34**

JUST ME
Hardworking professional woman desires to give up the all work and no-play lifestyle I enjoy hiking, skiing travel cooking cozy fireplaces, thunderstorms, early mornings and getting lost in a great book I'm comfortable in my own skin – just me. Not desperate or lonely, just adventurous enough (or stupid enough) to think I will meet you through a personal ad **RanaPlete 56**

FUNNY CONSCIENTIOUS DEDICATED
I'm a good catch and ready to fall in love again If you're responsible compassionate and a good listener you and I would be highly compatible I'm smart, funny affectionate and caring and looking for someone who is the same I like to travel love to think deep thoughts and want to have fun Join me! **flimhuff 53**

MOVIE LOVING KINKY CUDDLER
I can be sarcastic and quick witted but I don't ever intend to be malicious or lash out. I love watching movies and shows and reading books and I desperately would like to just find someone who is willing to cuddle as much as have some fun I want a relationship of some form it doesn't have to be serious **Myrawr 22**

WILD CHILD DIXIE
My philosophy of a love life: Imperfections are attraction Love is more than something bought in the flower and card aisle I'm a goofy witty sweet curly haired romantic at heart kinda gal but I'm also very independent and outdoorsy so don't expect me to be the girl asking for a mans jacket when I'm cold! I like snowboarding music, reading travel hiking hunting and fishing watching sports dogs **wolfeyes 29**

TOLERANT LOVING AND HUMOROUS
Looking for a man who enjoys a quieter lifestyle I love rides on back roads plays books friends, camping. Don't like a macho man who lists every sport known to mankind I do enjoy the summer and love the fall Winter can be a struggle for me Would love a man who loves to dance! Haven't done that in years **widget5665 65**

JOYFUL, ELEGANT NATURE GIRL
I find joy in all of life my garden time with friends a home-cooked dinner shared wine with friends art galleries live music and going on adventures —whether across the ocean or at my backyard fire pit. I'm looking for warm friendship, good conversation shared time, the intimacy of an open heart. Let's see what adventures we can create together. **heppy2behere 53**

ADVENTUROUS WATER BABE
Seeking a kind adventurous loving man for friendship and dating. I don't sit around much Moderately active Love sunsets anything to do with water bonfires, traveling going to new places and restaurants Lets explore life together **venture2015 65**

SPIRITED PLAYFUL, QUIET THOUGHTFUL, MULTIFACETED
If you bump into me when I'm out and about, I'm likely to appear shy and quiet. I've come to call myself an extroverted introvert. It's equally true that I'm curious engaging and approachable and equally in need of time with friends solo time artwork, reading, cooking my dogs exploring new places being domestic I seek someone equally invested in their life/creating a full life who is kind considerate communicative affectionate curious **snowcald, 53**

THOUGHTFUL, INTERESTED
I am very earnest person I like people, nature cooking, gardening and thoughtful conversations Read ng the Sun magazine going for a walk and doing restorative yoga is a perfect day Oh, and then a beautiful dinner with a microbrew beer I am delightful and easy to be around I am looking for the same **forfunlife 55**

CAN STAND ALONE OR TOGETHER
I can stand alone but can also be part of a couple I am patient, physically fit and value honesty A sense of humor draws me in and an independent spirit keeps me coming back I have many demands on my time, which is fine but I always make time to get together with someone to share a meal or just be **Elsa2015 50**

EASYGOING
I'm a woman looking for romance and a good time. I want to enjoy the rest of my life carefree filled with happiness. No drama please **funnyene 64**

VERMONTER SEEKING A NICE MAN
Native Vermonter who recently returned from living in Colorado A bit of a hippie (pettie/long hair/natural look) Enjoy intellectual discussions Poet and teacher Lifelong student now learning from being in the world Love bodies of water mountains music movies, comedy and pets Looking for a nice man who can make me laugh Friendship or more if the chemistry is right. **SeekersKnowledge 57**

BEAUTIFUL INSIDE AND OUT
Intelligent, independent woman seeks mature man to enjoy each other's company **sassy2015 50**

RUGGED JUGGED JANICE
Seeking jacked gentlemen, not jaded nor jealous! Enjoying jiggly jugs a must. Our journey begins here I am not picky/prickly You are golden you are worth it, you are mine **JuicyJenice 30**

SLIGHTLY SASSY, SMART AND FUNNY
I am a fun-loving, laid-back, intelligent woman who likes to have fun watch TV read hang out with my cat and ride roller coasters I'm relatively new to the area and looking for fun maybe more **vtgal207, 27**

WOMEN seeking MEN

CLEVER, HUMOROUS, CREATIVE, SENSIBLE, AFFECTIONATE
Some would say that I march to the beat of a different drummer If you are looking for a somewhat quirky, honest, loving woman it might be me Things I enjoy making things (all sorts!) fixing things Instead of throwing them in the trash birds animal tracks mushrooms and wild flowers playing with my dog gardening being helpful and trying to find my way **Anemely 50**

MUST LOVE BACON AND DOGS
I crave companionship but am fiercely independent I want a man to take care of and cook for but I also want to be taken care of and you can do the cleanup I love playing ice hockey (I'm a goalie) when I'm not injured and being active in general I love dogs they're totally awesome **vtgreengirl 35**

I WEAR A GARLIC NECKLACE
35 y/o college student looking for LTR relationship only Not interested in narcissistic abusers I'm not someone's attention supply **empathy4202, 36**

CURIOUS?

You read Seven Days, these people read Seven Days — you already have at least one thing in common!

All the action is online. Browse more than 2000 local singles with profiles including photos, voice messages, habits, desires, views and more.

It's free to place your own profile online. Don't worry, you'll be in good company.

See photos of this person online.

MEN seeking WOMEN

MAKING A FRESH START
Looking for honesty a little outgoing good personality sometimes funny stable and working partner to share good times or bad **Tashyessex 59**

SINGLE AND READY TO MINGLE
Very easygoing and laid back Looking to see what's out there **redlegans112979 42**

OUTDOORS LOVER
Active love to embrace the seasons run year round paddle in the summer and bike through the fall! Love to cook a meal or enjoy a movie and dinner out. Garden nights a pass on for me in the summer **casey 55**

OPEN CARING
I am a little shy at first, but once we get to know each other am very open I like to dine out or eat in I am open to both Not into the bar scene anymore. Looking for the same in a nice lady **Owayne047 48**

FUNNY SWEET LOVING, CARING EXCITING!
I find it hard to find women to meet in my lifestyle I am always on the go! I am a funny loving caring, open minded creative animal-loving man I like the outdoors and would like to find someone to live explore and see life with. **benny 29**

LONELY STONER NERO NELOS LIFE
I can genuinely say I'm a good person not without flaw but, damn I'm good! I'll be honest if you're into money or having the newest stuff I'm probably not the guy for you I'm into making do and having fun I'm new to Burlington so I'm trying to make some new friends and see where life takes me **Stenend, 25**

NATIVE TEXAN FROM VERMONT
Seeking second opinion about movies, music, food elections results fracking, good news bad news life Having someone close who you can talk to about everything — things we care about, things we fear things we enjoy things we love. Maybe it's validation. Maybe its just having someone listen It's not a complicated vetting process Just looking for a second ticket stub. Richard **LoneStarVermonter 61**

LOGE OF BECOMING
Open minded independent, creative life-exploring awake 39-year old looking for the same in others. See my online profile for more **elweyson 39**

HANDSOME, GENEROUS, LOVING
I am 75 and very active. Spend winters in SW volunteer in Vermont state parks in summer I like sunrise and sunset shared with a friend I can cook you any meal you like or am very happy to eat out. Hiking travel quiet times together or long talks with evening wine. **lokit75 76**

LET'S HAVE COFFEE
Looking for someone who wants to have fun and see where it takes us Meet for coffee and conversation and see if we have the spark or attraction. Looking for FWB or friends I'm an excellent kisser I have been told and very good in the bedroom Tell me what you like Like to cuddle watch movies run, hike **kineticspark, 34**

OPEN MINDED AND INTROSPECTIVE
I'm introverted but not shy I want to pursue a career in comedy or music but don't have much experience In either yet. I'm constantly looking for ways to better myself **aspiringbassist, 24**

CONFIDANT GENTLEMAN ALPHA
I'm an easygoing gentleman who finds humor in most things Dinner and a movie followed by drinks and dance my ideal date **vesker 29**

FREEDOM
My thoughts Animalistic attraction is mandatory Loving yourself and all things with energy Truth speaking and the capacity to work through it. Highest quality food Yoga meditation bodywork. The ability to dream and make it happen for each other Perpetual travel with modest homes to land at. I refuse to follow the laws of man Live as equals **Zeni 47**

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MEANINGFUL
I wouldn't describe myself as "delightful" However a date from a competing site recently told me "You are easily the nicest person I've met from this endeavor I'll take that I've also been called laid-back and humorous **longtrail 64**

CAN YOU CATCH ME?
I'm a genuine gentleman who has some bad boy still left in him Looking for an honest, loyal, caring loving woman who is ready for a relationship **BAZINGA, 49**

THE LAST NICE GUY LEFT
I like simplicity romance laughter movies, nature Obama Family Guy oil painting stone houses board games painted nails veggies meat, T-shirts jeans satin lingerie wine dogs, cats, books silver jewelry jokes snowshoes cuddling tennis talking not texting Bach Cat Stevens Queen kissing gardens woodstoves limericks and honesty I hate spearmint, NASCAR cigarettes and Rush Limbaugh **neturebey56 57**

HELLO SUNSHINE
Is it really spring? Sunlight and cold feels like warmth Can't help feeling hope **LightGetsIn, 55**

SPIRITED LIVING THE DREAM
Real man. Enjoying the wonderful living experience Enjoy drives to new places discovering hidden spots Totally debt free Gainfully employed Have energy for fun and different activities Healthy Getting culture at the theater Quiet times at home Respectful easygoing Like to meet new people **ReelVT 51**

MEN seeking MEN

KIND, GENTLE, YOUNG AT HEART
Active well educated 63 year young male seeking the same in someone else Looking for companionship and possible long term relationship **SteveO 63**

ACTIVE, ADVENTUROUS AND EASYGOING
Looking to meet compatible/easygoing guys for dating and friendship. My interests include hiking, travel comforts of home dining out cultural events music, antiques, sunsets to name a few Am currently easing into semi-retirement/second career and ready to explore deferred interests and adventures Tough to summarize in ad so hoping to hear from you to talk live **gmforfun 58**

SEVEN DAYS

HOOKUPS

For groups, BDSM, and kink:
dating.sevendaysvt.com

WOMEN seeking

TAKE A SWING IN HAMMOCK
I'm looking for some playmates to join me in my hammock. Hoping for an erotically good time. Hammock is mandatory. Weight limit is 650 on hammock. Multiple playmates encouraged. ☺ My hammock is colorful, and so are my fetishes. **hammocksex69, 22,** ☐

RAINBOW UNICORN SEEKS EROTIC ADVENTURES
In a loving, healthy, committed open relationship and seeking playmates for myself or my partner and me. We value those with a great presence, honesty, openness and a grounded sense of self, spiked with laughter and lightheartedness! As a couple, we're open to diverse experiences with other couples or singles. Respect, excellent communication skills and healthy boundaries are critical. **mongeclicious, 43** ☐

LONELY GIRL LOOKING FOR PLAYMATE
Just looking for a one-time thing, unless it's really good. Wanting some fun and wanting to try something new. **limbagirl127, 19**

ENCOURAGED TO PLAY
I'm a married woman who is in an ethically nonmonogamous marriage and encouraged to find men who interest me. I'm just seeing who's out there. I'm an active runner, gardener and skier (cross country) and would like someone who takes care of themself. Please contact me and tell me something that's going to make me interested in getting to know you. **Myprettypinkpincushion, 38** ☐

HOT AND BOTHERED
Educated, smart, witty, average-size woman who knows how to use her mouth is looking for a NSA and/or FWB for good times in and out of the throes of lust. **Funtobehad, 41** ☐

NAUGHTY LOCAL GIRLS
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WITH YOU
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69¢

LOOKING TO FILL A HOLE
I miss sex. I've put on weight due to a medical condition that I'm working on fixing, but I have a nearly insatiable appetite. Young men (under 36 y/o) in shape who know how to please a woman with curves like mine need only apply. **FemUVMStudent, 26** ☐

SUB SLUT
I am a little looking for a daddy dom to control me. I want to be punished and praised. Use me for your pleasure, make me submissive to you and leave me bruised. Ideally an ongoing DD/lg relationship. Aftercare is a must. **submissivegirl, 20** ☐

MEN seeking

CRAZY LOVER
Looking for possible dating and more! I love going out for drinks then having slow and gentle sex! Unless you want me to be rough! ☺ I want to have fun! If I meet someone who's great and likes what I like, I would maybe like to be more than friends. **Lover29, 29** ☐

POLY CURIOUS
I'm in a relationship where I'm not sexually satisfied. I'm interested in a discreet hookup with a polyamorous couple, something we can get comfortable having fun doing on a regular basis. I'm b- all the way. I enjoy sex to the fullest any way you slice it. **mshsr, 31** ☐

LOOKING OUT OF THE BOX
Male in a open relationship who needs to explore a wide variety of toys, gadgets and positions with a side of kink but in a safe, fun, discreet manner. Looking mainly for a woman who isn't afraid to add another female or male in the mix from time to time. **playaboy67, 44**

SEX IS NECESSARY FOR HAPPINESS
I'm just your average horny college 19-year-old. I want a woman who knows what she is doing to teach me the advanced ways of sex. Well hung here. Will eat you out to no end. I want you so bad. ☺ **nickeale, 19** ☐

LOVE TO EAT
Looking for someone to have some fun with dinner moves. Must be clean and discreet. My wife and I don't sleep together and haven't for some time. I have needs and want to share them. **lovetoplease, 45** ☐

SLIPPERY WHEN WET
Healthy professional, open-minded DD free, well-educated. Looking for some one-on-one fun. Lesbians encouraged to apply. Shall we? ☺ **subedoc, 56,** ☐

CONNOISSEUR OF CUNNILINGUS AND SEX
46 years old, in a LTR with zero intimacy. I'm a passionate man looking to share my desires with the right people. Canadian transplant, speak French and English, open-minded, just feel so trapped and looking to pop out and have some fun. Professional and discretion a must. **dave662, 47** ☐

SLOW, INTENT, THOROUGH
I'm looking for a fun, respectful and considerate night. I'm not into being super rough, but I can be very... firm. I want to know what you want. **Chezlove, 22,** ☐

AMAZING ORAL PLEASURES
Hello ladies. Looking to pass an oral multiple-orgasm exam. I'm your man. Mmmmmm. **allniteiong, 46**

NEED INTIMACY
Looking for younger woman (in heart or age) to spice up my life a little. Must be discreet. **Kindofshy, 65** ☐

OTHER seeking

BLONDE BOMBSHELL AND HER LUMBERJACK
Fun young couple, interested in dates/sexual adventure, seeking female playmate. She is a petite blonde bisexual femme in early twenties, and he's a well endowed bearded woodsman in early thirties. We are young professionals looking for discreet, respectful fun. Can host, no DD. Seeking compatible, funloving, nonjudgmental, down to date sexual health who is interested in more than one-night stands. **TeeterThree, 31** ☐

SHE IS INSATIABLE
We are a clean, laid-back couple looking for like-minded individuals or couples to play with and enjoy watching/being watched. She craves a LOT of sex, and we both have an interest in involving others. Please let us know if you are interested in getting to know us better. Thank you. ☺ **Playfulguyandgal, 43**

FANTASIES
We are a happy couple looking to fulfill her fantasies. Threesome with a bi guy or a guy willing to explore or be curious. Her fantasy is wanting to see her guy with another guy. Very discreet. Message us if interested. **want2explore, 42**

SEXY, FIT COUPLE SEEKING FUN!
Hot young DDF couple (29 y/o male and 24 y/o female) looking for a sexy girl to join us for fun. I'm looking for a sexy girl who's into my BF watching us pleasure each other. I'd like him to be able to join but he'll keep his hands on me. I love eating a tight wet pussy, and I'm hoping you will too. **hotyoungcoupleVT, 25** ☐

SENSUAL ADVENTURE WITH SEXY COUPLE
We are an awesome couple with a desire for adventure. We are easygoing, healthy, professional and looking for a like-minded woman to play with us. We love music, dancing, socializing and good people. Life is good, and we want to enjoy it! **RosaLinda, 28** ☐

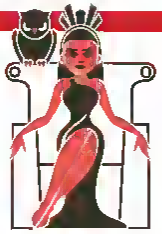
FUN TIMES
Want to have a good time and experience others. Want to be fucked while my girlfriend watches and joins in. First time trying bi experience, not sure but want to try. Disease-free and only want the same. **tpiskura, 47**

POLY COUPLE ON THE PROWL
We are a pretty chill duo who are adjusting to life in rural Vermont. Our past lives included more polyamorous possibilities, so we are trying to extend our network to meet fun people and play a little. DD free, both are athletes and going for a hike would be just as fun as tying up the wife. Both would be best. ☺ **Poly_Peeps, 32,** ☐

YOUNG AND FIT OUTDOORSY COUPLE
Looking for attractive laid-back ladies to have fun in the bedroom with us. We're a very active, professional yet kinky couple interested in music, drinks, good times and body-shaking orgasms. **Istewn73, 27**

Your wise counselor in love, lust and life

ASK ATHENA



Dear Athena,

I am in a basically dead relationship with my boyfriend. I am also totally completely smitten with someone I absolutely cannot have. I can't tell anyone. My boyfriend knows something is wrong and is getting mad at me for not sharing. I'm trying to keep my mind off my crush, but I'm driven to distraction. Any help would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Smitten With Someone Other Than My Man

Dear Smitten,

I'm not sure what you need me for — you've said it all yourself. Are you waiting for a "blessing"? OK, I officially declare your relationship deceased. Start saying your good-byes.

Maybe that seems pretty cut and dried, but there's not much else to address. You're smitten with someone else? Therein lies your answer. It's one thing to think the barista at the local cafe is a cutie, but it's absolutely unfair to stay with your boyfriend if you're seriously interested in anyone other than him — regardless of the other person's availability.

How would you feel if your boyfriend had the hots for some other chick and was just biding his time with you? Pretty shitty, right? So do the poor guy a favor and end it.

It's up to you whether you tell him you have feelings for someone else. But I wouldn't. Why add salt to the wound? Just say your feelings have changed. You've changed. That's the truth. If you still cared for him the way you used to, you wouldn't be head over heals for someone else.

You say the other person is unattainable. But things change. You're unavailable, too, at the moment. End it with your current boyfriend before setting your sights on someone else. If you are newly single and still interested and your crush is still out of reach, take some solo time before you start trolling for your next relationship. Give yourself a chance to reflect on what you really want. By the sound of it, you need a break to clear your head and heart.

Yours,

Athena

Need advice?
You can send your own question to her at **askathena@sevendaysvt.com**



A FRIEND OF RUMPHIUS
To the woman seated behind me who spoke the truth with wh msy and verve I thank you and I wish you well Perhaps our paths will cross again **When Friday March 13 2015 Where We shared a cab You Woman Me Man #1112827**

WINTER KAYAKING?
To whoever owns the tiny red car with the big red/orange swirly kayak on the roof! It's always there! The topic of such quandary — I say you are a master ice kayaker! What's the real story? **When Saturday March 14 2015 Where NNE. You Woman Me Woman. #912820**

MISS CHEETOS AND RED WINE
As you stare at me with your spiked hot chocolate stained sweatpants and your "Vermont haircut that needs to be fixed" every time you wave your fist and threaten to "punch me in the face" I know th s caretaking was meant to be. **When Friday March 13 2015 Where House of Tang. You Woman Me Woman #912825**

IN A UTOPIC WORLD
Wouldn't it be n ce to both talk and listen with abandonment and without fear or judgment? To actually be mutually respectful and unconditional friends? Maybe someday I hope **When Friday March 13 2015 Where a few years ago on a winter morning. You Man Me Woman. #1112824**

AN INTENDED ACCIDENTAL RUMP
How cliche And such a gym faux pas to "accidentally" brush my arm against you at the water fountain My bad! I've been wanting to do that for quite some time I know it's probably creepy as hell but I do enjoy watch ng your amazing afternoon workouts I like your ink, too **When Thursday March 12, 2015 Where gym You Man. Me Woman. #912823**

SKATING AT TIMBERLINE
You were skate ski ng up and I was skinning up I loved your mismatched skis and thought you were very cute. We spoke for a minute at the bottom Perhaps desp te my awkwardness you'd want to skate a few laps with me someday **When Tuesday March 10 2015 Where Timberline at Bolton You Man. Me Woman #912822**

MISTAKEN IDENTITY OR NEW BEGINNING?
I thought you might be someone I knew I offered a name It wasn't yours but you mentioned that others had also asked you if that was your name Now I'm curious to learn what your name actually is, and would love to give you mine **When Thursday March 12 2015 Where Waterbury Village Market. You Woman. Me Man #912821**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WIFE
I spy a beautiful wife and mother who is the joy of my life Guess and I are so happy to have you Happy b rthday baby! **When Monday March 23 2015 Where Essex Junction You Woman Me Man. #912820**

UNDRESS
Shes weaning cherry lip balm and talk ng ecstasy Later you can taste IL **When Thursday March 12, 2015 Where smoking cancer on a street corner You Man. Me Woman #912819**

MIKE .. NEVER IN COLCHESTER
This has gotten out of hand No one even calls me Mike anymore I wrote my last response online (too lengthy for print) but originally I just wanted to give advice I learned the hard way If you think you've found The One don't let them go feelings get hurt and communication breaks down Misunderstand ngs take place of truth people move on and futures fade into potential Talk to your lover and shine loving l ght on every facet of your relationship Especially when it's hard or scary **When Wednesday March 11 2015. Where I I Spy taa much You Woman. Me Man. #912818**

BEAUTIFUL BARISTA..
You made me the best latte. You had a really funky and creative vibe I like your tattoos Maybe somet me you can meet me on the other side of the counter? **When Tuesday March 10 2015 Where Speeder & Earl's. You Woman Me Man #R12817**

WHAT IS UP WITH "MIKE"?
This is the weirdest phenomenon. What is going on with this Mike stuff? It's all too curious I don't know what all of this is about, but I have never seen so much hype **When. Wednesday March 11 2015 Where on the web You Man Me. Woman #912811R**

"TURBO" HOTTIE!
On our way out, I held the door and you returned the favor saying "Have a good one!" You brunette with a ponytail in a black and-white spotted coat Me brown hair glasses wearing a black jacket w th wh te-and red stripes Would love to meet there again **When Monday February 23 2015 Where Dunkin' Donuts on Pearl St., Burlington You Woman. Me Man. #912815**

JAX AT OAKLEDGE SUNSET
To the cute guy with the adorable dog named Jax: I hope you got some good shots of the beautiful sunset! Wish we could've talked more! **When Wednesday March 11 2015 Where Oakledge Park You Man Me Woman #912814**

INAMORATA ENTOMOLOGY
My attraction to you encrusts my body as obvious and necessary as an exoskeleton Your skin is inked with insects, and the sight of you makes me nept. I shy from you like a lady from an arachnid Little Miss Muffet **When Wednesday March 11 2015 Where Metre Back You Woman Me Woman #912812**

VEGAS RULES
Think ng ahead to the the porch In Vegas you welcome me with your beautiful face smile and energy Me in a skirt and flip flops you in just shorts or your skin We enjoy a butt while having conversation You approach me and as you kiss me we melt together as the world d sappears I love you so much my C **When Wednesday July 10 2013 Where North Middlesex. You Man. Me Woman #912811**

A DIFFERENT MIKE
Burlington (and Plattsburgh) will miss you Safe journey Make it happen we believe in you **When. Saturday March 7 2015 Where Burlington/ Plattsburgh You Man Me Woman #912808R**

DELIVERING SEVEN DAYS AT CAROLS
I came n after a lady opened the door for you and stood in your way lol You held the door open for me w th your foot. ☺ I thought you were super cute Want to get coffee sometime? **When Wednesday March 4 2015 Where Carol's Hungry Mind Cafe Middlebury You Man. Me Woman #M12808**

A WEEK OF DREAMS
It's been a week filled with dreams Literally You have been in mine for a while now Are you ready to take the first jump of spring? Relax, smile and surrender **When Saturday March 7 2015 Where here there and everywhere You Woman Me Man #912804**

BEAUTIFUL AT HANNAFORD
You were walking into Hannaford I think you were having car trouble. We exchanged simple hellos as our eyes met on the way in I was wearing black coat and hat with blue jeans I was in a real hurry and didn't have t me to try to speak to you — total m ssed opportunity Hope you see this **When Wednesday March 4 2015 Where Hannaford Shelburne Road You Woman. Me Man #912803**

OMV GODDESS
I spotted your sleeveless and sublime lines while standing on queue I then willed my way to w ndow 1! You ran a check on me and I'd like to re turn the favor Are you free to frolic with mortals? **When Wednesday March 4 2015 Where Montpelier OMV You Woman Me Man. #912800**

MY SWEETNESS
Thank you my precious man for an amazing hump day! You are such an amazing lover! Forever your cupcake! **When Thursday March 5 2015 Where the love shack Colchester You Man Me Woman. #912798**

DABBLING
I spy a hardworking man mak ng it happen! Loving missing and needing you my lover! The fin sh line Is so very close my precious. Forever your cupcake! **When Wednesday March 4 2015. Where in my dreams You Man. Me Woman. #912796**

LOVELY BLONDE AT CHRIS SMITHER
Lola! Intr gued by your story smitten by your smile would love to know more I'm tapp ng my toes 'til I hear from you Maurice aka Crocodile Man **When. Saturday February 28, 2015 Where Middlebury Town Hall Theater Your Woman. Me Man. #912785**

ADIRONDACKER 7 DAYS AD
I have seen your ad for a while now The dogs the Deere the dude thing going on. If nothing else we might make each other laugh And with that, not feel as alone in the world. No picture here but a thousand pictures are no replacement for 49 words **When Wednesday January 1 2014 Where Seven Days personals. You Man Me Woman #912793**

DEAR K.E.H
I wanted to thank you for 20 great years! On July 5th it will have been two years since you left, I miss you every day! I gain solace in hearing you are so happy in your new life you made for yourself You truly deserve it. You are a great person Anyone who has you in their lives is truly blessed! Love always A J **When Monday March 2 2015 Where ride to work. You Woman Me. Man. #912782**

YOU HAD ME AT BROTHER..
One truly amazing night in Stowe you spotted me from across the crowded bar grabbed me and looked me straight in the eyes You sang like a Siren to me among hundreds of people making me cry tears of joy and I love you for that. No one will ever appreciate you like I will MK. Don't give up **When. Saturday March 7 2015 Where Rusty Nail You Woman Me Man #912791**

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN RED SQUARE MARDI GRAS
To the beautiful woman who took my tie home on Mardi Gras I would love to see you again I was the man with a mohawk dressed in purple You the amazingly beautiful woman in all black who I danced with a few times If you see this get back to me **When Saturday February 28, 2015 Where Red Square You Woman Me Man. #912789**

SATURDAY AT INDIGO SALON
Gray topknot with the side shaved chest tattoos leopard print coat radiant, shining energy My hair was hanging in my face when you walked by but I still got a good look You seem like someone I want to know **When Saturday February 28 2015 Where Indiga You Woman Me Woman. #M12788**

PRECIOUS MAN
Platinum and diamonds choosing one amazingly beautiful gown yummy dinner dessert by candlelight hot, relaxing shower Can my day get any sweeter? I am forever your cupcake! **When. Saturday February 28 2015 Where at the love shack. You Man Me. Woman #912787**

VERY HOT AT FLOWER SHOW
Around 2 p m. Really hot guy standing with friend n main room, not far from entrance Long, gorgeous hair — light brown? Hard to tell the color indoors. Our eyes caught just for a moment I looked away too quickly You were wearing light blue jeans I wore dark jeans If interested tell me what you were eating and someth ng about me **When Friday February 27 2015 Where Vermont Flower Show You Man. Me Woman. #912780**

BAE..
Your hair was in a long fishtail braid. I could talk to you all night about "House of Cards" You're an absolute babe, and I want to get to know you better **When. Saturday February 28 2015. Where Radio Bean You Woman. Me Woman #912785**

LETTING YOU FLY MUSIC MAN
It was bollocks We couldn't share it out loud and we both wanted to, You are free and untamed I'm ruled and stuck. You pushed I pulled Your music was my des re You used your charm. It worked In the end it hurt. If you fought hard I would've too Now it's quiet. The sound is turned off I know you've found elsewhere Although I miss t, I m left ng you fly You deserve t **When Saturday September 13 2014 Where Burlington waterfront You Man Me Woman #912784**

HI MY FUTURE EVERYTHING
You are truly the most amazing man ever! So sexy so true. I'm so blessed to be loved by you! Is that bells I hear ringing or the pounding of my heart? Forever yours my sweetness! K **When Friday February 27 2015 Where In rey arms. You Men. Me Woman #912783**

MIKE.
That's an interesting date you p cked 2013 My name is Mike, but I doubt you're talking to me Regardless of who Mike is you should focus on your present happiness and wisdom Let go of the past because dwellings a trap If you're worth fighting for ask to be chased If you asked to be left alone you got it. **When Friday February 27 2015. Where I Spy You Woman Me Man #R12782**

I JUST CAME TO DANCE
Hey Jesse I had a great time dancing around with you at the show! It was my pleasure to meet you I loved your style and would've liked to get your number Alas I dropped the ball on that one All the same that was great fun. **When Thursday February 26 2015 Where Nectar's You Woman Me Man #912781**

CURIOUS?
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Barkeaters Restaurant
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The Bearded Frog
The Bench *
Big Picture Theater and Cafe
Black Sheep Bistro
Blen Northeast Seafood *
Blue Cat Steak & Wine Bar
Blue Paddle Bistro
Bluebird Barbecue
Bluebird Coffee Stop
Bluebird Tavern
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Cafe Provence (Brandon)
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Cornerstone Pub & Kitchen
The Daily Planet
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El Cortijo Cantina & Taqueria
El Gato Catina (Burlington, Essex) *
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Grazers *
The Gryphon *
Guild Tavern
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Maple City Diner
Maxi s Restaurant *
Michael s on the Hill
The Mounted Cat *
Mule Bar
NEGI on Main
New Moon Cafe
Nicome Deli (Burlington) *
One Federal Restaurant & Lounge
Our House Bistro *
The Parker House Inn & Bistro *
Parkside Kitchen *
Pascolo Ristorante *
Pauline s Cafe
Phantom *
Pizza Barra
Pizzeria Verita
Positive Pie (Barre * Hardwick Montpelier)
Positive Pie Tap & Grill
Prohibition Pig
Pulcinella's
The Red Clover Inn & Restaurant
The Reservoir Restaurant and Tap Room
Revolution Kitchen
Roots the Restaurant
Sai Sai Japanese Restaurant
Sarducci s Restaurant & Bar
The Scuffer Steak & Ale House
Shanty on the Shore
Sherpa Kitchen
The Skinny Pancake (Burlington, Montpelier)
Simon Pearce Restaurant
Sonoma Station
Sotto Enoteca *
South End Kitchen
Southside Steakhouse *
The Spot
St Paul Street Gastrogrub *
Starry Night Cafe *
Storm Cafe *
Sweetwaters
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Three Brothers Pizza & Grill
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